

SLUG and LETTUCE



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I still base my life around seeing bands. I chronicle my time with photos of the bands I've seen. I can remember a time, a season or a year through my memories and documents of these bands. This spring was the season and the year of To What End? my favorite band from Sweden, and the band that I have been raving about being the ultimate and favorite band of all time and obsessiveness for me. The obsession started last year. Once I found out they were coming to the East Coast, I focused my attention on seeing them as many times as I could and put that at the forefront of my spring frenzy. I got to see them first in Richmond with Kakistocracy. I knew I couldn't miss out on the ultimate show in Pittsburgh with Ristetyl and Die Screaming (sigh). And then it was onward to Chicago, via Milwaukee for the Chicago Fest. All this with a bit over a week, on a schedule that defies all sense. Sometimes I laugh at myself cause I think I can drive up to Pittsburgh for a show, then drive back home and get to work the next afternoon. And while technically I almost can, and have in the past—mentally I wanted to stay and hang out a bit. It's not every day that get so many favorite peeps together at once. And so I did as I had to, and closed down the bar with the rest of the Scandinavians and Pittsburghians, slept in my car and then drove home. I barely got back on track and then I was off to the midwest, already in a sleep deficit. The Chicago Fest was overwhelming with so many bands all crammed into a weekend. Half of them I'd never heard of, but just about all of them I enjoyed, and I did watch each and every one. The highlights for me were pretty much what I expected, the faves I already had. The last chance to see To What End and Ristetyl; a new and improved and out of control RAMBO, Municipal Waste were representing the RVA cranked up the energy and tore things up, WB2D and Signal Lost did what they do, and we got a short introduction to BSA. Hit Me Back by far were the best surprise and new band for me to see. They are energetic E. LA posh hardcore kids with more energy, passion, and sincerity than a bunch of jaded old hardcore bastards could ever hope for. I was too tired to get my shit together and take photos and that is my big regret of the weekend. Sunday was topped off with I Object ruling the hardcore punk and Direct Control nailing it down for Richmond, again. Dancing at the goth club with the Swedes and Finns was as much fun as the show, hanging out with all the people and friends from afar was as always the reason to be there in the first

footing easily in NYC again, which was quite exhilarating

Somewhat life hasn't really slowed down too much, although I have not been stressed out even though I'm pushing the limits on what I can physically and mentally do within each day. So many times in my whirlwind adventures of late I have found myself just being so stoked about everything. I find myself driving through the PA mountains after seeing amazing bands and just thinking about how much I love my life. I hop on an airplane on no sleep, straight off of a 12 shift at work, on my way to a fest with my best friend and again I love my life. I walk down the crazy streets of NYC that I still know so well and I'm stoked. And then I come home to my cozy house and family, with an amazing garden, and for all my fun and adventures in the world, and I'm happy to be home. I enjoy pushing the limits and balancing the extremes and I think that the opposites make each extreme better. A frantic punk show in the city and then an escape to the rolling fields of the country make both a bit more special. And being able to hold it all together by a loose thread, and stitch it all along into a patchwork quilt that holds together keeps me inspired and stoked. And

in all those bizarre and crazy obsessive journeys, jaunts, and visits that I have, I always know that it's the punk rock lifestyle that holds the dental floss strong threads together without fraying and that is what I really love about my life.

And while right now I kinda feel half nuts because so much has happened lately and it seems impossible to process, and there is so much to look forward on the horizon, and spring is still hanging around in Richmond being the best season of possibilities and hope for the future and my enthusiasm is uncontainable. It seems like forever ago that I was in San Francisco for Karoline's birthday party and the All You Can Eatshows—and indeed, it was 4 months ago—which is kinda foreverago. And just the other day Kylesa and Born Dead played here in Richmond and smashed my head in with a powerhouse of heaviness and punkness, and it will be another 4 months before the documents of that show get printed and put into my punk archives. I'm sorting through photos for the 20 year anniversary photo book of Slug & Lettuce, and I'm sure you'll see some of those in the future.





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xoxo Christine



To What End?
Roboto, Pittsburgh 3/05



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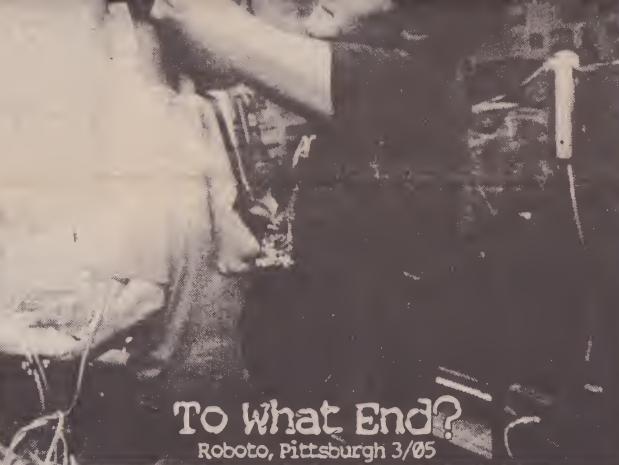
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Cover artwork is by Jeremy Clark
write him at PO Box 2271 • Asheville NC 28802
All photos by Chris Boarts Larson

Spring 2005

ADVERTISING RATES

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If you can recommend a place (store, infoshop, showspace, etc) that you think should carry S&L, get in touch w/me.

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DONATIONS: S&L is free and financed by ads and by you. Donations are always appreciated and needed in order to keep S&L functioning and free!!

SUBMISSIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS:

Always looking for punk artwork and possible columns or articles -- especially with a social/political/activist slant. Do not send originals - you will be contacted if your work will be used. Open to ideas and proposals

PRINT-RUN: 10 000

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Cover artwork is by Jeremy Clark
write him at PO Box 2271 • Asheville NC 28802
All photos by Chris Boarts Larson

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DEADLINE SCHEDULE:

Deadline for #84: July 15th, 2005

#85 - October 15, 05 - out Nov 2005

#86 - January 15, 06 - out Feb 2006

Payment should be cash or payable to Chris Boarts Larson. Payment for all ads, including digital ads must be received prior to the deadline.

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Last minute ads are subject to space availability

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(you can send \$2 and a stamp or round up for a donation - but no coins!)

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DOG DAYZ

THE SUMMER OF GLASS - CHAPTER 3 - K9 IS A PUNK ROCK SQUATTER GIRL LIVING IN THE LOWER EAST SIDE OF MANHATTAN. ITS A HOT SUMMER & GLASS HOUSE IS THE COOLEST SQUAT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD ESPECIALLY SINCE EMBROYO HOUSE HAD BURNED DOWN THE PREVIOUS FALL - DUG BEY IS ONE OF THE PUNKS DISPLACED BY THE FIRE - IN THE LAST CHAPTER K9 & DUG FINALLY HOOKED UP! MEANWHILE A CORRUPT "LOW-INCOME HOUSING" GROUP - FLAVA NUEVA IS TRYING TO TAKE OVER GLASS HOUSE & EVICT THE SQUATTERS! MEANWHILE - ITS GETTING HOTTER!!
HEY! I WOULD LOVE SOME FEEDBACK ON THE STORY - CONTACT FLY! POBOX 1318 COOPER ST NYC NY10276 USA
EMAIL: FLY@BWAY.NET (PUT "DOG DAYZ" AS SUBJECT SO I KNOW ITS NOT SPAM)

CRUSTY BEE SQUATTERS & OTHER ASSORTED PUNKS WOULD ALSO CONGLOMERATE IN LA PLAZA CULTURAL - A COMMUNITY PARK OVER ON AVE C & 9TH ST - OR MAYBE AT THE EAST RIVER PARK - AT NIGHT THERE WOULD BE SERIOUS BEER DRINKING & FOR A WHILE THERE WAS SOME VERY ORGANIZED DUMPSTER DIVING - SPAM WOULD TAKE A CREW OUT 3 OR 4 TIMES A WEEK IN HIS TRUCK & THEY WOULD HIT ALL THE CHICHI GOURMET FOODSTORES - ONE NIGHT THEY FOUND A BUNCH OF BRAND NEW JUICERS OUT IN BACK OF SOME HEALTHFOOD STORE WHEN THEY PULLED UP TO CHECK THE DUMPSTERS - SOME TIMES DUG & K WOULD GO OUT SMASHING BOTTLES AT THE EAST RIVER & RUN INTO THE DUSTED MASSES - THERE WAS A LOT OF DUST THAT SUMMER - THERE WAS A SPECIAL MIX NICKNAMED RUBBLE DUST CUZ IT WAS ALL THE RAGE WITH THE SKUNKS - K WASN'T INTO IT BUT SOME OF THE



TO EYEBALL - WHAT THE FCK!? - K WANTED TO KNOW & TRIED TO BE PISSED TO HIS FACE BUT REALLY SHE WAS A PUSHOVER & SHE WAS JUST GLAD TO SEE HIM - HE GAVE HER THIS BIG STORY THAT HE HAD BEEN ON THE PARTYING & HE HAD BEEN ON THE SUBWAY SMOKING & SOME UNDER-COVER COP HAD TRIED TO GIVE HIM A TICKET & SO THEN HE GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH THE COP & HE GOT ARRESTED - OF COURSE IT WAS TRUE - IT WAS CLASSIC DUG STYLE - K LAUGHED & GAVE HIM A BIG KISS

THAT WAS THE NIGHT THAT SNIPER SHOWED UP - BACK FROM CLEVELAND NOW THAT THE WEATHER WAS WARMER - K & DUG HUNG OUT WITH SNIPER & SHAKES DRINKING 40S OVER AT LA PLAZA - K SHAVED DESIGNS IN THE SIDES OF DUG'S HEAD & MADE A GARBAGE SCULPTURE ON TOP WITH HIS DREADS - DUG TRIED HIS BEST TO REMAIN



GLASS KIDS WERE - THERE WAS A CRAZY HEATWAVE THAT YEAR & EVERYONE - DUSTED OR NOT - WOULD GO BREAK INTO THE POOL AT 10TH & D - THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD WOULD BE IN THERE AT LIKE 2AM UNTIL MAYBE THE COPS WOULD COME & CHASE EVERYONE OUT

EARLY IN THE SPRING DUG HAD STARTED DOING WORKDAYS AT EYEBALL HOUSE IN HOPES OF MAYBE GETTING A SPACE THERE - THE FIRST TIME HE WAS SUPPOSED TO SHOW UP FOR A WORKDAY HE JUST DIDN'T - K WAS A LITTLE PISSED OFF CUZ SHE HAD TOLD PEOPLE THAT HE WAS COMING & WAS TRYING TO CONVINCE THEM THAT HE WAS RELIABLE & WHAT THE FCK WAS HE DOING? - HE JUST DIDN'T FCKN SHOW UP - SHE LEFT SOME PISSED OFF MESSAGES ON HIS ANSWERING MACHINE AT CRAZY LOUIE'S PLACE & FINALLY AT LIKE 4PM HE MANAGED TO DRAG HIS CRUSTY BUTT OVER



TOUGH & COOL THROUGH THIS WHOLE ORDEAL WHICH WAS HARD FOR HIM BECAUSE SHAKES & SNIPER KEPT POINTING OUT TO HIM THAT HE LOOKED LIKE A FCKN RETARD & K WAS ALMOST PEEING HERSELF TRYING NOT TO LAUGH - SHE WAS A SERIOUS FCKN ARTIST & HE DAM WELL HAD BETTER APPRECIATE THAT HE WAS HER CENTER OF ATTENTION

THAT SUMMER AS THE WEATHER GOT HOTTER SO DID THE POLITICS - THE NEIGHBORHOOD WAS TRYING TO CHANGE - YOU COULD FEEL IT - THE PROCESS PROCESSING ITSELF - THE ENGINE OVERHEATING - MOTIONS BEING PASSED - SIGNALS - GLASS HOUSE WAS THE FOCUS OF THE WHOLE SQUAT COMMUNITY THAT SUMMER & IT WAS A VERY VISIBLE COMMUNITY

THE MOTION TO GIVE GLASS HOUSE TO FLAVA NUEVA WAS



GOING TO BE ON THE AGENDA OF THE JUNE 21ST COMMUNITY BOARD 3 MEETING - THERE HAD ALREADY BEEN PRELIMINARY BLOCK ASSOCIATION MEETINGS - K HAD GONE TO SOME OF THEM & THEY WERE LIKE SOME KIND OF BAD THEATER OF REALISM - POST MODERN TOURISTS PROBABLY WOULD HAVE PAID MONEY TO SEE IT IF THERE WAS A CAP-PACINO BAR THERE - CRAZY LADIES WITH MIDDLE AGED HOUSEWIFE HAIRDOS WERE IN CHARGE OF THE MEETING & THE SQUATTERS COULDNT UNDERSTAND WHO THE FCK THESE PEOPLE WERE & WHAT GAVE THEM ANY RIGHT - K WATCHED - BOTH SIDES BEING AS BRUTAL AS POSSIBLE WITHIN THEIR OWN ILLUSIONS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS - THE LIVING THEATER OF THE RIDICULOUS - ANDY WARHOL WOULD HAVE LOVED THIS

THE BLOCK ASSOCIATION WOMEN SIT UP FRONT & TALK &



SAY STUPID SHIT KNOWING THEY ARE PROTECTED BY THE POLICE AT THE BACK OF THE ROOM - MOST OF THE AUDIENCE IS SQUATTERS & THIS IS THE OFFICIAL PRETENSE OF LETTING THE OPPONENT HAVE THEIR SAY - WHO THE FCK WILL EVER TAKE NOTICE OF WHAT IS SAID IN SUCH A SHIT BOX ROOM? - YOU LL KNOW WHAT A NOTHING YOU ARE WHEN YOU HAVE TO FIGHT PEOPLE IN A SHITBOX ROOM & NO ONE ELSE CARES EXCEPT FOR THE PEOPLE FIGHTING & THE PEOPLE PAID TO WATCH THESE STUPID GAMES - INSIDE THE SHITBOX ITS CLAUSTROPHOBIC & YOU CAN'T HELP FEELING PARANOID WITH ALL THESE COPS BEHIND YOU - NOTHING WILL BE COMMUNICATED HERE EXCEPT THAT WE FEAR & THEREFORE HATE EACH OTHER - THE INCHARGE LADY HAS THE BIGGEST UGLY HAIRDOS & SHE COMES UP WITH THE CLASSIC STATEMENT - "WE ARE INTERESTED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY..." TO BE CONTINUED...

WHEN THEY PULLED UP TO CHECK THE DUMPSTERS - SOME TIMES DUG & K WOULD GO OUT SMASHING BOTTLES AT THE EAST RIVER & RUN INTO THE DUSTED MASSES - THERE WAS A LOT OF DUST THAT SUMMER - THERE WAS A SPECIAL MIX NICKNAMED RUBBLE DUST CUZ IT WAS ALL THE RAGE WITH THE SKUNKS - K WASN'T INTO IT BUT SOME OF THE



TO EYEBALL - WHAT THE FCK!?! - K WANTED TO KNOW &
TRYED TO BE PISSED TO HIS FACE BUT REALLY SHE WAS
A PUSHOVER & SHE WAS JUST GLAD TO SEE HIM - HE GAVE
HER THIS BIG STORY THAT HE HAD BEEN OUR PARTYING &
HE HAD BEEN ON THE SUBWAY SMOKING & SOME UNDER-
COVER COP HAD TRYED TO GIVE HIM A TICKET & SO THEN HE
GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH THE COP & HE GOT ARRESTED - OF
COURSE IT WAS TRUE - IT WAS CLASSIC DUG STYLE - K
LAUGHED & GAVE HIM A BIG KISS

THAT WAS THE NIGHT THAT SNIPER SHOWED UP - BACK FROM CLEVELAND NOW THAT THE WEATHER WAS WARMER - K & DUG HUNG OUT WITH SNIPER & SHAKES DRINKING 40S OVER AT LA PLAZA - K SHAVED DESIGNS IN THE SIDES OF DUG'S HEAD & MADE A GARBAGE SCULPTURE ON TOP WITH HIS DREADS - DUG TRIED HIS BEST TO REMAIN



Glass kids were - there was a crazy heatwave that year & everyone - dusted or not - would go break into the pool at 10th & D - the whole neighborhood would be in there at like 2am until maybe the cops would come & chase everyone out

EARLY IN THE SPRING DUG HAD STARTED DOING WORKDAYS AT EYEBALL HOUSE IN HOPES OF MAYBE GETTING A SPACE THERE - THE FIRST TIME HE WAS SUPPOSED TO SHOW UP FOR A WORKDAY HE JUST DIDNT - K WAS A LITTLE PISSED OFF CUZ SHE HAD TOLD PEOPLE THAT HE WAS COMING & WAS TRYING TO CONVINCE THEM THAT HE WAS RELIABLE & WHAT THE FCK WAS HE DOING? - HE JUST DIDNT FCKN SHOW UP - SHE LEFT SOME PISSED OFF MESSAGES ON HIS ANSWERING MACHINE AT CRAZY LOUIE'S PLACE & FINALLY AT LIKE 4PM HE MANAGED TO DRAG HIS CRUSTY BUTT OVER

SIGNALS - GLASS HOUSE WAS THE FOCUS OF THE WHO SQUAT COMMUNITY THAT SUMMER & IT WAS A VERY VIS COMMUNITY

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NO ONE ELSE CARES EXCEPT FOR THE PEOPLE FIGHTING & THE PEOPLE PAID TO WATCH THESE STUPID GAMES - INSIDE THE SHITBOX ITS CLAUSTROPHOBIC & YOU CAN HELLYA FEELING PARANOID WITH ALL THESE COPS BEHIND YOU - NOTHING WILL BE COMMUNICATED HERE EXCEPT THAT WE FEAR & THEREFORE HATE EACH OTHER - THE INCHARGE LADY HAS THE BIGGEST UGLY HAIRDO & SHE COMES UP WITH THE CLASSIC STATEMENT - "WE ARE INTERESTED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY..." TO BE CONTINUED....

EMO'S
RED RIVER & 6TH
ALL AGES

A PUNK THRASH HARDCORE
ROCKNRROLL RIOT

3*4*5 JUNE 2005

CHAO\$ IN TEJAS

FRI 3 JUNE

AVSKUM
swedish legends - 1st us tour

TRAGEDY
only tx show

SAT 4 JUNE

DEATHREAT
back again after 4 years

BORN DEAD ICONS
montreal - only tx show

SUN 5 JUNE

SELFISH
finland - 1st tx show

HELLSHOCK
pdx
barneys / ciber

HER THIS BIG STORY THAT HE HAD BEEN OUT PARTIING & HE HAD BEEN ON THE SUBWAY SMOKING & SOME UNDER-COVER COP HAD TRIED TO GIVE HIM A TICKET & SO THEN HE GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH THE COP & HE GOT ARRESTED - OF COURSE IT WAS TRUE - IT WAS CLASSIC DUG STYLE - K LAUGHED & GAVE HIM A BIG KISS

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FIGHTING DOGS

Summer 05

	WEEK	DAY	MONTH	LOCATION	OPENING
WED	6/22		CLEVELAND, OH	@ THE TOWER W/ DISMAL	
THU	6/23		CHICAGO, IL	w/ DISMAL	
FRI	6/24		MADISON, WI	@ THE OWL SANCTUARY W/ DISMAL & HIGH ON CRIME	
SAT	6/25		MINNEAPOLIS, MN	w/ DISMAL	
SUN	6/26		RAPID CITY, SD		
MON	6/27		DRIVE		
TUE	6/28		SEATTLE, WA		
WED	6/29		PORTLAND, OR		
THU	6/30		ASHLAND OR MEDFORD OR		
FRI	7/01		BERKELEY, CA	@ GILMAN W/ OFF MINOR	
SAT	7/02		OFF		
SUN	7/03		HELP		
MON	7/04		RENO, NV	@ FORT RYLAND	
TUE	7/05		LOS ANGELES, CA	@ POISON APPLE	
WED	7/06		SAN DIEGO, CA	HELP	
THU	7/07		LAS CRUCES, NM	@ THE BEAN W/ THE ANSWER LIES	
FRI	7/08		AUSTIN, TX	w/ STORM THE TOWER	
SAT	7/09		HELP		
SUN	7/10		ST LOUIS, MO	@ LNAC	
MON	7/11		TN		
TUE	7/12		ATHENS, GA	@ TIGHT POCKETS	
WED	7/13		ASHEVILLE, NC	w/ HIRETSUKAN & KAKISTOCRACY	
THU	7/14		WASHINGTON, DC	@ WAREHOUSE NEXT DOOR	

Contact: fightingdogs@disaster.nu

SLUG & LETTUCE PAGE 2

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ALL AGES

A PUNK THRASH HARDCORE
ROCKNRROLL RIOT

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back again after 4 years

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HELLSHOCK
pdx

THE STATE
80s seminal michigan hc

SIGNAL LOST
tx

TRAGEDY
pdx - only tx show

WORLD BURNS TO DEATH
tx

DARVOGETS/CIDER
2 bands, 1 set

CLOCKCLEANER
philly

FINAL SOLUTIONS
ex-restarts/lost sounds members

BURY THE LIVING
memphis

KAJUN SS
ex-bad times/exploding hearts

BÜMBKLÄTT
tijuana mx

HOLY SHIT!
wi - catholic boys members

CUT-THROAT
ex- atrocious madness, harum scarum, religious war

B.S.A.
bastard sons of apocalypse - tx

plus DJ JIM BRADFORD &
DJ SKELL DOG between sets!

INFO-timmythetexasturd@gmail.com

TICKETS- emosaustin.com

COLUMNS

Dave Trenga



I keep looking for this supposed liberal media that I always hear about from the unobjective, right wing, corporate owned, censored, nationalistic, pro-bush, staged, mainstream media, to no avail. I can't find it. Can anyone help me out here? Does it really exist? Well not in the mainstream it doesn't, that's for sure. We are living in the age of state and corporate controlled media, where the increasing trend has been that "fair and impartial" or "balanced" is actually nothing more than scripted talking points provided to the media by the white house and the republican national party. Respectable "reporters" have their research handed to them on a silver platter by those they're supposed to be investigating, this spoon-fed style of journalism never actually looks beneath the glossy packaged fabricated story and is carefully tailored to influence the public rather than informing it. This type of corporate controlled media has been manifesting for years now but never has it been so ominous or blatantly obvious as it has become these last five years. It never ceases to amaze me how easily manipulated people really are, how people are content with passively accepting what they're told is true and never giving it any further thought, never holding anything up to be scrutinized, whether it's the source of a story, the motive that's pulling the story in a certain direction and most certainly why a story is even being told. Questioning why a story is actually being told in this day and age has become one of the most important points to take note of. The right wing presence in this country has successfully subverted the information being provided to the American people and turned it into a well oiled media machine that dispenses only what they allow... well that is the norm in this day and age of corporate owned media but every now and then we do get a glimpse of stories that evade their radars and still manage to reach us. Or maybe it's more likely that their manufactured news is becoming so transparent that it's alienating more and more people and as a result people on the outside of the mainstream media are working harder to expose the hypocrisy. There has been a lot of attention being placed on bloggers in the last few months. Political bloggers link to new articles in the mainstream media and then offer their own opinions about the linked article, trying to disprove or offer their own insight into the related story; hopefully by offering facts but seeing as how anyone can start a blog page and again how easily manipulated people have become, blogs aren't always a healthy alternative to the mainstream media. Another tactic that's becoming the latest trend is for the mainstream media to capitalize on the fact that bloggers are not held up for scrutiny any more than they are so what we see happening is that corporate media has been quoting blogs as legitimate news sources to "back up" a story that they're trying to feed to the American people. And another thing to consider is that the media world would categorically deny is that political blogs, like the media, are dominated by the extreme right, which of course kind of defeats the purpose of having a media watch guard when they are in fact pushing the same lies as the mainstream. Instead what they are being used for is to stamp a story with supposed documentation, providing credentials that will never be called into question. It also has drastically shifted any lingering illusion of balance when the media and all three branches of the American government are firmly in the hands of the far right. At least if the "left wing" democratic party was in power in any or all three branches of the government the right wing media and bloggers would offer an opposing perspective but the way things are now we have almost across the board complete complacency and a green light given to those in power and those that own the media to continue to deceive the American people, for there will be no repercussions. This kind of atmosphere does tend to lead to an arrogance that otherwise wouldn't be condoned. It's this type of arrogance that does eventually become the downfall for those who really push the limits. The most obvious example is that of Jeff Gannon. Gannon was a conservative reporter from Talon News (an online news site) that had frequently lobbed "softball" questions to President Bush and his press secretary Scott McClellan. Here's a couple of examples of Gannon's objective reporting:

"Why hasn't the administration made more of the UN inspectors' report that says Saddam Hussein was dismantling his missile and WMD (weapons of mass destruction) sites before and during the war? And doesn't that, combined with the now-proven Al Qaeda link between Iraq — between Saddam Hussein and the terrorist organization — unequivocally make the case for going to war in Iraq?"

"I'd like to comment on the angry mob that surrounded [Senior Bush adviser] Karl Rove's house on Sunday. They chanted and pounded on the windows until the D.C. police and Secret Service were called in. The protest was organized by

that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa]" were "well-founded." Doesn't Joe Wilson owe the President and America an apology for his deception and his own intelligence failure?

"Since there have been so many questions about what the President was doing over 30 years ago, what is it that he did after his honorable discharge from the National Guard? Did he make speeches alongside [actress and anti-Vietnam War activist] Jane Fonda, denouncing America's racist war in Vietnam? Did he testify before Congress that American troops committed war crimes in Vietnam? Did he throw somebody else's medals at the White House to protest a war America was still fighting? What was he doing after he was honorably discharged?"

Obviously these types of questions are more of a political speech than those of an independent reporter covering white house press conferences which is exactly why Bush and McClellan so often turned to Gannon when they were being called on by others in the white house briefing room that weren't lobbing such friendly questions. Gannon was a Bush loyalist that was utilized over and over to bail Bush and McClellan out of hot water. Gannon got more and more arrogant with his partisan questions as time went on and the obviously biased question that led to Gannon's downfall was:

"Senate Democratic leaders have painted a very bleak picture of the U.S. economy. Harry Reid was talking about soup lines, and [Senator] Hillary Clinton [D-NY] was talking about the economy being on the verge of collapse. Yet in the same breath, they say that Social Security is rock solid and there's no crisis there. You've said you're going to reach out to these people. How are you going to work with people who seem to have divorced themselves from reality?"

With this single question raising more than a few eyebrows, left wing bloggers started to dig into Gannon's credentials and his past. What they found out was that Gannon, whose real name turned out to be James Dale Guckert, in addition to working for Talon News also worked for GOPUSA, (which is a web site was created to provide "conservative news, information, and design company dedicated to promoting conservative ideals") was run by the same man, Bobby Eberle, who is the Talon editor in chief and the president and CEO of GOPUSA. Bloggers and others such as Media Matters also discovered that Gannon/Guckert "has used Bush administration and Republican National Committee (RNC) documents and releases in his Talon "news reports" verbatim and without attribution. In at least two of his articles, Gannon lifted more than half of the text directly from GOP "fact sheets." It was also discovered that Gannon/Guckert had been approved for a press pass before Talon News was created. Next was probably the most embarrassing aspect of Gannon/Guckert's past (to the Bush administration) and that was that Gannon/Guckert had been an online male prostitute having registered the domain names: Holmilitarystud.com, Militaryescorts.com and Militaryescorts4m.com. Bloggers even found a photo online of Gannon/Guckert himself posing in his underwear under the screen name bearing the initials J.D.G. Right wing conservative columnists have actually accused the bloggers and anyone else questioning Gannon/Guckert of merely attacking him because of his apparent homosexual past

and have come running to his rescue, claiming that it's nothing more than gay bashing on the part of his critics. Wow, imagine that, conservative right wing columnists like Ann Coulter defending gay rights! But that's not really what this is all about it's about how this man got into the presidential press corps unless he was planted by the administration, (an administration that has been leading the country towards an anti-gay mindset by the way). Now here is a man applying for and receiving a press pass to Whitehouse press conferences, operating under a false name and having no news agency to represent, with a history of being a male prostitute, all in the days of post 9/11 security, who publishes right wing "talking points" taken directly from Bush administration "fact sheets" that lobs "softball" questions as lifelines to Bush and McClellan and the administration (as it claims) had no knowledge of any of these indiscretions. Interesting isn't it? Seems as if Gannon/Guckert was more likely a Whitehouse plant, a friendly subversive there to turn the heat down at press conferences over and over again. In fact it seems so blatantly obvious that members of congress have called on Bush to investigate how this man was given access to the Whitehouse press corps. I may be a bit of a pessimist but I doubt anything will ever be investigated into this matter. The bigger issue here anyway is how the Bush administration has successfully subverted the American media to manipulate the people by controlling the stories that help them shape policy. And there are plenty of other examples. Over the past few months it's been discovered that the Bush administration has paid reporters to push administration policy. Conservative commentator Armstrong

were aired under the misconception that viewers were watching a news story when in reality they were watching propaganda films that were made to push Bush administration policies; propaganda films that were filled with slanted material that was presented as fact. There are many more examples of media manipulation out there that can be found but most Americans are just content with believing what is spoon-fed to them. We have become a society that dangerously accepts what we're told without ever thinking about it, we have become the most ignorant and misinformed people on the face of the earth; too lazy to even take an active role in knowing what is happening around us everyday, so is it fair to hold the media to a higher standard than we hold over ourselves? After all it's all about being "fair and balanced" right?



When it comes down to it, there's really very little funny about the FBI. Or cops in general.

It was one of those things that catches you completely off guard; like hitting a rock on your skateboard and getting tossed ass over tits. One minute I was thinking about staying up all night with Yvonne talkin' about the revolutionary virtues of Siouxie and the Banshees. The next, I was being dragged out of Dulles Airport in handcuffs.

I strolled into the airport feeling really fuckin' good about the world, even if the airport was named after one of the biggest CIA fuckbats in history. Warm fuzzies were still swirlin' around my guts after spending a week in Richmond celebrating the continued existence of dear Greg Wells. With sweet memories of good friends and good times, I dropped a couple of suitcases full of memoirs off with the Transportation Security Administration and headed off to the gate. Even though I was tired and wore out from all the fun, I was eager to get back to PDX for some hell raising with Montana Jane.

I sat down and was just getting into the latest TC Boyle book when the loudspeaker shouted, "Will passenger Michael G. Antipathy please report to the ticket counter."

Thinking they'd decided to upgrade me to first class or sport me a pair of flying wings, I skipped up to the desk. A stern faced Delta agent met me. "The TSA found something in your luggage. You'll have to go back and sign a declaration then hurry back here. We can't hold the flight." Thinking my stash of gay porn or photos from my glory days set off some alarm, I went back to the TSA stand feeling nothing more than a slight sense of inconvenience. After all, I was legit. I hadn't committed a prosecutable offense since my mohawk

was two feet tall and seen' that I hadn't received a paycheck in more than six years that didn't come from Uncle Sam, I was as enfranchised as one could be.

Unfortunately, George Bush, Tom Ridge and a whole lot of state and Federal Law Enforcement didn't feel the same way. The little fenced-in TSA petting zoo (where they X Ray checked luggage) was literally packed with cops and stiff suited FBI dicks. I walked up in my most cordial manner and coughed up my most innocuous Beaver Cleaver voice "Uh, you guys called?"

A fat Dulles pig looked me up and down and said, "Yeah, wait a minute." That minute never came. Exactly 45 second later I was in handcuffs, being carried out of the airport by three pigs.

Ten minutes later I was locked in a plexiglass cell in the new underground Anti-terrrorism station the feds had built right under the razor wire perimeter fence at Dulles. "This is just a misunderstanding, everything is fine, these cops and feds are just friends I haven't met yet," my inner Kevin Seconds ranted, while my inner Earth First! wolf totem, soul snarled and snarled in *Clawthorpe*, discomfited.

been arrested, but rather was merely being detained and would be free to go after I was questioned in the other room.

They led me into a mid-sized conference room that was literally lined with the overweight, snickering fodder of Dulles' finest. A dozen FBI agents, stereotypical in every way, ringed the oval shaped table in the middle of the room. I sat down and a Fed with a TV evangelist's corrupt smirk addressed me. "I'm Agent Shitbag and these are my associates. Do you know why you're here today?"

Trying to stay cool I answered. "Cuz I'm on my way back to Portland?"

He shook his head as though I didn't believe Jesus needed another \$50 and answered his own question. "No. You are here because we found WEAPONS and QUESTIONABLE MATERIALS in your baggage. Show them..."

A Dulles pig with incredibly bugged out eyes, a bulbous paunch above his belt buckle and terribly bad attitude, presented a pair of plastic bags. (He would later become known to me as R.E. Gaines, super pigbastard extraordinaire.) One contained a frame of an antique pistol, the other, a 100 year old straight razor my great grandfather had carried over from Wales.

The FBI agent continued. "We realize neither of these appear to be weapons, especially considering they were in your checked luggage, but I assure you the US government takes all security risks very seriously. And after inspecting the rest of your baggage, we feel you may pose a security risk."

I nodded to show I was paying attention, but remained silent. Agent Shitbag continued. "Of the things we found these three were the most alarming."

He pulled out a photograph of my mother, dressed in a puffy Christmas sweater, holding an AR 15. "We found this in your carry on bag. Who is this woman and what militia does she belong to?"

I accidentally smiled. The thought of my little ol' mom serving in a militia in her reindeer embroidered sweatshirt was a little too much to take seriously. "Naw, that's my mom. She's not in a militia. What militia invites old women in Rudolph sweatshirts to join anyway?"

The FBI agent, apparently satisfied with that logic, put the photo down and picked up a copy of a Robert Mapplethorpe book. "And what is this?" "A book."

Agent Shitbag stared down his nose at me like he was about to cast me into the flaming pits of Hell (which are located not far from DC, the truth be known). "But what kind of book?"

I shrugged. Though it was gay porn, by Mapplethorpe's standards that book may as well have been Dr. Seuss. There were no bondage shots, no bullwhip shafts stuck up butts, no nothing. "I dunno. There's pictures of flowers and babies and stuff..."

Officer R.E. Gaines, not able to contain his excitement, shouted out. "And also pictures of men engaging in sexual relations with other men!!!"

Another fat Dulles pig appeared from his post at the wall, grabbed the book, got right in my face and threatened, "You're never gonna get a wife if you keep shit like this around!"

The cops and Feds all nodded, sharing a comfortable moment of consensus amongst themselves before Agent Shitbag picked up a map/calendar of the upcoming RNC. "And what is this?" he spit venomously.

"I dunno. I haven't looked at it yet. A map?"

He smacked it down on the table. "It is not only a map but a listing of events planned to disrupt the Republican National Convention. Did the John Kerry campaign give this to you? Where did you have contact with John Kerry? Have you planned terrorist activities with the Kerry campaign? Is the Kerry campaign working with your mother's militia?"

By the time Agent Shitbag's face had turned jellybean red and I feared (hoped) he might drop dead from a heart attack. But like all hopes, this one didn't come true. The fattest of the Dulles pigs smacked his fist down on the table. "Answer the question."

Suddenly remembering that I was alone in an underground bunker with three dozen pigs and that they literally had control over whether or not I left this jail alive, I suddenly found the cooperation they were looking for.

"No, I didn't get it from the John Kerry campaign. I got it from a coffee shop in DC. There was a whole stack of them. And for the last time, my little old mother is not in the militia."

The cops looked at each other helplessly, as though suddenly realizing that the big score they hoped would get them all promoted and into screenplay deals with Miramax films had crumbled. I was just another weird kid with weird shit in his bags.

Agent Shitbag tried twice more to trick me into confessing that my mother was a militia leader and that John Kerry was waiting for me back in PDX with a skimask and handful of tree spikes before the FBI dicks rose triumphantly, as though they had just finished cracking the case of the century, and walked on out. R.E. Gaines wrote me a subpoena and told me I would have to find my own way back to the airport. Six months, two delayed court dates, three cross-country trips and a few thousand bucks later, my charges of Carrying a Concealed Weapon in an Airport Terminal (for the straightrazor) were dismissed as the bullshit they were.

As neat and interesting as it was to see first hand how incompetent and unprofessional American law enforcement is, the whole experience was fucking scary. The American security apparatus is chock full of assholes and idiots with a whole lot of overlap between the two. The war on terror has empowered every Archie Bunker shithead with a badge to do more or less whatever they choose and unless you have a law degree or enough money to buy access to someone who does, there's not what we need to consider about the American security apparatus.



glossy packaged fabricated story and is carefully tailored to influence the public rather than informing it. This type of corporate controlled media has been manifesting for years now but never has it been so ominous or blatantly obvious as it has become these last five years. It never ceases to amaze me how easily manipulated people really are, how people are content with passively accepting what they're told is true and never giving it any further thought, never holding anything up to be scrutinized, whether it's the source of a story, the motive that's pulling the story in a certain direction and most certainly why a story is even being told. Questioning why a story is actually being told in this day and age has become one of the most important points to take note of. The right wing presence in this country has successfully subverted the information being provided to the American people and turned it into a well oiled media machine that dispenses only what they allow... well that is the norm in this day and age of corporate owned media but every now and then we do get a glimpse of stories that evade their radars and still manage to reach us. Or maybe it's more likely that their manufactured news is becoming so transparent that it's alienating more and more people and as a result people on the outside of the mainstream media are working harder to expose the hypocrisy. There has been a lot of attention being placed on bloggers in the last few months. Political bloggers link to new articles in the mainstream media and then offer their own opinions about the linked article, trying to disprove or offer their own insight into the related story; hopefully by offering facts but seeing as how anyone can start a blog page and again how easily manipulated people have become, blogs aren't always a healthy alternative to the mainstream media. Another tactic that's becoming the latest trend is for the mainstream media to capitalize on the fact that bloggers are not held up for scrutiny any more than they are so what we see happening is that corporate media has been quoting blogs as legitimate news sources to "back up" a story that they're trying to feed to the American people. And another thing to consider is that the media world would categorically deny is that political blogs, like the media, are dominated by the extreme right, which of course kind of defeats the purpose of having a media watch guard when they are in fact pushing the same lies as the mainstream. Instead what they are being used for is to stamp a story with supposed documentation, providing credentials that will never be called into question. It also has drastically shifted any lingering illusion of balance when the media and all three branches of the American government are firmly in the hands of the far right. At least if the "left wing" democratic party was in power in any or all three branches of the government the right wing media and bloggers would offer an opposing perspective but the way things are now we have almost across the board complete complacency and a green light given to those in power and those that own the media to continue to deceive the American people, for there will be no repercussions. This kind of atmosphere does tend to lead to an arrogance that otherwise wouldn't be condoned. It's this type of arrogance that does eventually become the downfall for those who really push the limits. The most obvious example is that of Jeff Gannon. Gannon was a conservative reporter from Talon News (an online news site) that had frequently lobbed "softball" questions to President Bush and his press secretary Scott McClellan. Here's a couple of examples of Gannon's objective reporting:

- "Why hasn't the administration made more of the U.N. inspectors' report that says Saddam Hussein was dismantling his missile and WMD [weapons of mass destruction] sites before and during the war? And doesn't that, combined with the now-proven al Qaeda link between Iraq — between Saddam Hussein and the terrorist organization — unequivocally make the case for going to war in Iraq?" - "I'd like to comment on the angry mob that surrounded [senior Bush adviser] Karl Rove's house on Sunday. They chanted and pounded on the windows until the D.C. police and Secret Service were called in. The protest was organized by the National People's Action Coalition, whose members receive taxpayer funds, as well as financial support from groups including Theresa Heinz Kerr's Tides Foundation."

- Last Friday, the Senate Intelligence Committee released a report that shows that Ambassador Joe Wilson lied when he said his wife didn't put him up for the mission to Niger. The British inquiry into their own prewar intelligence yesterday concluded that the President's 16 words ("The British government has learned

to provide "conservative news, information, and design company dedicated to promoting conservative ideals") was run by the same man, Bobby Eberle, who is the Talon editor in chief and the president and CEO of GOPUSA. Bloggers and others such as Media Matters also discovered that Gannon Guckert "has used Bush administration and Republican National Committee (RNC) documents and releases in his Talon "news reports" verbatim and without attribution. In at least two of his articles, Gannon lifted more than half of the text directly from GOP "fact sheets." It was also discovered that Gannon Guckert had been approved for a press pass before Talon News was even created. Next was probably the most embarrassing aspect of Gannon Guckert's past (to the Bush administration) and that was that Gannon Guckert had been an online male prostitute having registered the domain names: Holmilitarystud.com, Militaryescorts.com and Militaryescortsm4u.com. Bloggers even found a photo online of Gannon Guckert himself posing in his underwear under the screen name bearing the initials J.D.G. Right wing conservative columnists have actually accused the bloggers and anyone else questioning Gannon Guckert of merely attacking him because of his apparent homosexual past and have come running to his rescue, claiming that it's nothing more than gay bashing on the part of his critics. Wow, imagine that, conservative right wing columnists like Ann Coulter defending gay rights! But that's not really what this is all about it's about how this man got into the presidential press corps unless he was planted by the administration, (an administration that has been leading the country towards an anti-gay mindset by the way). Now here is a man applying for and receiving a press pass to Whitehouse press conferences, operating under a false name and having no news agency to represent, with a history of being a male prostitute, all in the days of post 9/11 security, who publishes right wing "talking points" taken directly from Bush administration "fact sheets" that lobs "softball" questions as lifelines to Bush and McClellan and the administration (as it claims) had no knowledge of any of these indiscretions. Interesting isn't it? Seems as if Gannon Guckert was more likely a Whitehouse plant; a friendly subversive there to turn the heat down at press conferences over and over again. In fact it seems so blatantly obvious that members of congress have called on Bush to investigate how this man was given access to the Whitehouse press corps. I may be a bit of a pessimist but I doubt anything will ever be investigated into this matter. The bigger issue here anyway is how the Bush administration has successfully subverted the American media to manipulate the people by controlling the stories that help them shape policy. And there are plenty of other examples. Over the past few months it's been discovered that the Bush administration has paid reporters to push administration policies. Conservative commentator Armstrong Williams was paid \$240,000 by the Bush administration to promote their education policies. Nationally syndicated columnist, Maggie Gallagher, was paid \$21,500 by the Bush administration to write columns that promoted the Administration's marriage initiative. Another Nationally syndicated columnist, Michael McManus was paid \$10,000 by the Bush administration to also promote their marriage initiatives. Another example is that of the Bush administration filming staged "news reports" with actors playing "reporters" and giving copies to news networks that

in general.

It was one of those things that catches you completely off guard; like hitting a rock on your skateboard and getting tossed ass over tits. One minute I was thinking about staying up all night with Yvonne talkin' about the revolutionary virtues of Siouxie and the Banshees. The next, I was being dragged out of Dulles Airport in handcuffs.

I strolled into the airport feeling really fuckin' good about the world, even if the airport was named after one of the biggest CIA fuckbards in history. Warm fuzzies were still swirlin' around my guts after spending a week in Richmond celebrating the continued existence of dear Greg Wells. With sweet memories of good friends and good times, I dropped a couple of suitcases full of memoirs off with the Transportation Security Administration and headed off to the gate. Even though I was tired and wore out from all the fun, I was eager to get back to PDX for some hair raising with Montana Jane.

I sat down and was just getting into the latest TC Boyle book when the loudspeaker shouted, "Will passenger Michael G. Antipathy please report to the ticket counter."

Thinking they'd decided to upgrade me to first class or sport me a pair of flying wings, I skipped up to the desk. A stern faced Delta agent met me. "The TSA found something in your luggage. You'll have to go back and sign a declaration then hurry back here. We can't hold the flight." Thinking my stash of gay porn or photos from my glory days set off some alarm, I went back to the TSA stand feeling nothing more than a slight sense of inconvenience. After all, I was legit. I hadn't committed a prosecutable offense since my mohawk

was two feet tall and seenin' that I hadn't received a paycheck in more than six years that didn't come from Uncle Sam, I was as enfranchised as one could be.

Unfortunately, George Bush, Tom Ridge and a whole lot of state and Federal Law Enforcement didn't feel the same way. The little fenced-in TSA petting zoo (where they X Ray checked luggage) was literally packed with cops and stiff suited FBI dicks. I walked up in my most cordial manner and coughed up my most innocuous Beaver Cleaver voice. "Hi, you guys called?"

A fat Dulles pig looked me up and down and said, "Yeah, wait a minute."

That minute never came. Exactly 45 second later I was in handcuffs, being carried out of the airport by three pigs.

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With every passing second, my panic level shot skyward. I was locked up in a jail no one knew existed. I was another casualty in the Gov's latest Dirty War. No one knew I was missing, no one knew where I was. Fuck, I could almost feel the oppressive tropical heat of Guantanamo Bay pushing against my all too pasty honky flesh. Then, just as I was wishing I had implanted cyanide pills into my cheeks for a quick and painless exit from human bondage, a pair of fat Dulles cops came in and unhandcuffed me. The cops, in their usual gruff fashion, informed me that I hadn't

Rudolph sweatshirts to join anyway?"

The FBI agent, apparently satisfied with that logic, put the photo down and picked up a copy of a Robert Mapplethorpe book. "And what is this?"

"A book."

Agent Shitbag stared down his nose at me like he was about to cast me into the flaming pits of Hell (which are located not far from DC, the truth be known). "But what kind of book?"

I shrugged. Though it was gay porn, by Mapplethorpe's standards that book may as well have been Dr. Seuss. There were no bondage shots, no bullwhip shafts stuck up butts, no nothing. "I dunno. There's pictures of flowers and babies and stuff..."

Officer R.E. Gaines, not able to contain his excitement, shouted out. "And also pictures of men engaging in sexual relations with other men!!"

Another fat Dulles pig appeared from his post at the wall, grabbed the book, got right in my face and threatened, "You're never gonna get a wife if you keep shit like this around!"

The cops and Feds all nodded, sharing a comfortable moment of consensus amongst themselves before Agent Shitbag picked up a map/calendar of the upcoming RNC. "And what is this?" he spit venomously.

"I dunno. I haven't looked at it yet. A map?"

He smacked it down on the table. "It is not only a map but a listing of events planned to disrupt the Republican National Convention. Did the John Kerry campaign give this to you? Where did you have contact with John Kerry? Have you planned terrorist activities with the Kerry campaign? Is the Kerry campaign working with your mother's militia?"

By this time Agent Shitbag's face had turned jellybean red and I feared (hoped) he might drop dead from a heart attack. But like all hopes, this one didn't come true. The fattest of the Dulles pigs smacked his fist down on the table. "Answer the question."

Suddenly remembering that I was alone in an underground bunker with three dozen pigs and that they literally had control over whether or not I left this jail alive, I suddenly found the cooperation they were looking for.

"No, I didn't get it from the John Kerry campaign. I got it from a coffee shop in DC. There was a whole stack of them. And for the last time, my little old mother is not in the militia."

The cops looked at each other helplessly, as though suddenly realizing that the big score they hoped would get them all promoted and into screenplay deals with Miramax films had crumbled. I was just another weird kid with weird shit in his bags.

Agent Shitbag tried twice more to trick me into confessing that my mother was a militia leader and that John Kerry was waiting for me back in PDX with a skimask and handful of tree spikes before the FBI dicks rose triumphantly, as though they had just finished cracking the case of the century, and walked on out. R.E. Gaines wrote me a subpoena and told me I would have to find my own way back to the airport. Six months, two delayed court dates, three cross-country trips and a few thousand bucks later, my charges of Carrying a Concealed Weapon in an Airport Terminal (for the straight razor) were dismissed as the bullshit they were.

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SLUG & LETTUCE PAGE 3



I've been sick for a month, the kind of sick where it feels like death is lying next to me in bed. The kind where no amount of tinctures, teas, or fresh air seems to make any difference. Even though I have a bad cough, runny nose, and husky voice; I know it's coming from my head. Feeling crazy, feeling uninspired in the ways I need to be. I find myself without a community of folks to have serious discussions about radical politics, the role of art in dissent, what the fuck to do in this totally depressing country. I've been chatting with Yvette for weeks, months, about the state of reproductive health, the lack of resources, the small number of remaining abortion providers, the lack of comprehensive health care, the incredible racism, homophobia, and sexism that keeps vagrants on health insurance policies and birth control off. That keeps AIDS research, at home and overseas, of little interest to White Wealthy Male America.

But I feel like I'm always talking about reproductive freedom and does anyone even care? I go to shows which are so male, so straight, so fucking typical with women as nurturers and men as the angry musical geniuses. I can't find men willing to play music with me, and the few women who play music are generally either too shy to play in public, or are already playing. The punk scene talks a big wish to eliminate the "isms" of the world, yet bands with people who raped friends of mine are still pictured and championed as leaders in the punk scene. Meanwhile, people write about how rad the scene is when they beat up a rapist, but that's not what I think helps abusers. People who abuse people are often survivors of abuse themselves. That just perpetuates the cycle. And the scene response is quite different when the rapist is in a big popular band. Then, people talk about how nice the person is, how they wouldn't ever do such a thing. How the woman must be trying to "work her way up in the scene". People talk about the "grey areas" of what happens in the bedroom instead of talking about what consent, active consent is, where someone says that they WANT to do something. Instead of saying that people deserve whatever happened, or somehow consented to it, if they don't say no, and say no repeatedly, and fight and struggle physically. People talk about how rape is between strangers, violent, with active dissent.

I am a survivor of sexual assault from someone I was dating and from two strangers while hitchhiking. They are totally different; they affect me today in different ways. The stranger attack still keeps me up at night, makes me feel like I could never live alone, makes me freak out when I find the front door just fifteen feet from my bedroom unlocked day after day, after numerous conversations with roommates. It makes me almost punch my friends when they sneak up behind me. It makes me practice self defense. It makes me mad at my friends and ex-lover for not understanding me or supporting me through a rough decision to convict the fuckers after I found out they had raped and mutilated several women, murdered at least one woman, before they tried to do these things to me. The sexual assault from an ex lover makes me keep emotional walls between myself and my lovers. It makes me have meaningless sex flings to try to devalue the act so that I feel like sex isn't really such a big deal, and therefore my first lover who ignored five no's and went ahead when I was sleeping, well, then he really didn't take much from me.

I've been going to the library looking through the RI collection of old newspaper articles, I've been trying to find out about radical groups in Providence. Get my sick head awakened. I found mention of a group called the "Women's Liberation Union" which were apparently protesting and organizing in the 50's and 60's around abortion rights. I look to history when the current world seems dismal. Trying to find the ways people are always struggling amidst seemingly impossible odds. Some days I romanticize the past, what people were doing. Do people have too much distraction these days? Did social upheaval have a better chance forty years ago? Or are we just fucking giving up? Or is the resistance better blocked from public view? Where are all the radicals now? What would they say to us today? What would I say to someone 15 years my junior? I don't want to operate out of anger alone. I don't want every bit of organizing to be a reaction to someone else's



This week we are celebrating my son's twelfth birthday. These milestones always get me reflecting on parenting. And just a few weeks ago we celebrated another birthday—the arrival of Mia Dobson into this world. Mia's folks are dear friends and I am looking forward to being able to watch her grow up. Invariably, when a new baby is born there is a discussion among family and friends regarding the merits and pitfalls of raising boys or girls. The general consensus seems to be that raising boys is easier. I can't imagine that it is as simple as that. I only have one child, a boy, so that's all I know about. But I do know that parenting a child is anything but easy. I also know that children are individuals and individuals vary in millions of ways, so I figure it just can't be as simple as what sex someone is born as.

It really bothers me when people say that raising boys is easier and that has nothing to do with the fact that I have a son. When people say that, I hear what they are leaving out: If raising boys is easy, then raising girls is difficult. This implies that themselves girls are difficult. Before these kids are even born we've got em all figured out, apparently. Yeah, that is really wise.

I can definitely see how the task of raising a daughter could be daunting. In a society that treats women as objects, where women still don't receive equal pay for equal work, where women still encounter violence and even death in the streets and in their homes, the conditions in which we are raising young women are certainly troublesome. Is that their fault? Because they are so difficult? Reminds me of what my grandma used to say about throwing the baby out with the bath water. The thing is, everybody I've ever known who has said these things about how hard it is to raise girls are good, caring people. They are just simplifying things like we all do in order to deal with stuff.

The fact that the world is a tough place on girls makes my job as a mother to a boy really important to me. I don't believe that boys are easy to raise. Well, I believe it would be easy to raise a boy by society's standard. And what I mean is raising a boy to think the world is his oyster and he can have anything in it. Where it gets hard is raising my boy to be a decent human being and not contribute to why things are so tough for girls. At the same time I've got to honor him for what he is, as hokey as that sounds. I've gotta raise this kid to be a good person, a decent man, someone who doesn't view himself as part of the problem just because he was born as a boy and yet make him aware that he can be part of the solution. Read that sentence again

and think about it. Now tell me raising a boy is easy.

When I break it all down in my mind, it comes down to the potential that both

becomes ugly, that's all. I think a lot of young men are being raised in another kind of poverty and that is the "be a man" mentality. It doesn't help them and it doesn't help girls, either.

As I said, my son is twelve now, and we're going through the process of making sense of sex. Well, we have been for years. It is very fluid. Each year the stuff we discuss changes as he matures. Giving him lots of good information about sex is a form of empowering him. For one thing, we don't talk about sex without humanizing it. Sex is not just something boys go off and do. There is going to be someone else involved, and I have tried to make a point to be an advocate for my son's future sex partners. Maybe that sounds a little weird, but I find it unfortunate that parents and schools, when providing sex education, so often fail to even try to humanize children's sexuality. It is all just "Put the condom on the penis" and nothing about. "Well, you might get the condom on your penis and then one of you might realize that maybe you aren't really sure anymore..." Talking about sex with young people is great because you get to go so many places with it. In that particular scenario we could go on to discuss things so many things and they all have to do with alternatives. Basically we sit around filling in the blanks. "Well, if I can't or don't want to do that, then I could do this." Giving kids lots of ideas about good ways to deal with problems is what empowerment is all about. The hope is that they don't get out there and get broadsided by things that are frustrating or difficult.

When it comes to making split decisions (in moments of passion or crisis) people refer to their mental checklist of options and what is on that list is going to determine their course of action. We use what we know. And what we know is what we have been taught. I think this theory holds water for everything and it is something we need to think about whether we are parenting, protesting war, or dealing with our own mental health. I'm sure we could all benefit from expanding and redefining our list a little, right down to removing "girls are difficult and boys are easy."

—Candyce P.O. Box 3124/Fort Smith, AR 72913/hellocoldisaster@hotmail.com



Die Screaming
Roboto, Pittsburgh 3/05



When is violence an answer? No really, when is physical force necessary, deserved or needed? When is there no other alternative? Or when is it justified?

These are all questions that were going through my mind as I was hitting this boy in the face while on my front porch. These questions were in the forefront of my thoughts as I tried to move his arm against the front step in order to break it - so that boy couldn't use that hand to hit myself, my friends, my family. I thought, "Is this necessary?" and decided it was, and if it weren't for my pacifist partner grabbing me, I would have easily broken his arm.

I have found myself becoming more militant in the last years, why I am unsure. Maybe it was my time with the German autonoms, or a growing desire to stand up for what is right - using any means necessary. Maybe it is my growing frustration with life, with the systems we live under... or maybe it is just the fact that idiots keep showing up to my house causing trouble, and I'm just sick of dealing with them.

I have witnessed a number of fights in my time. From Spanish punks attacking a Polish kids with Bullet belts in Barcelona, to skinheads having a "booty party" on an unsuspecting metal head at a show in DC. I have seen blows fly and heard screams, more times than I dare to count. Overall this fighting disgusts me. I walk away from it, search for alternatives, and feel that it is a personal failure if I circumvent a physical fight. This is a conscious choice, as I am neither small person, nor am I someone who is immune to aggression. I have "walked away" from confrontation a number of times... not fallen into a mentality to need to prove my physical power over others. I have always hated the whole "who's the big dog" game that so many men base their lives around. I've looked at violence as some sort of copout, an easy solution... where a healthy dialogue or other means would be effective. That American culture is a violent culture and I should do everything in my power to not imitate that. The idea that violence only brings violence has always held strong to me... but now, now I am unsure, because there I was, fist flying in the confusion of a fight. It is like all my idealism breaks down under certain circumstances; where I walk into my living room to find a fight had broken out - where in my mind, my perfect world, there would not have been any.

My house is a very open, communal house. We have a lot of events, from benefit shows and parties, to political speakers, and queer drag shows. We have an all-ages, open door policy - it is how we are and what we want to promote. This last year we have had a number of occurrences that make us question

In retrospect I didn't need to hit him... I could have just held him down, made sure that he understood what he did wrong through another method. But I didn't, I went for blood. I wanted him to feel pain. I wanted to make it crystal clear that there were repercussions for his actions; that there was a penalty for starting a fight in my home. I wanted... I wanted to teach him a lesson - that he can't beat his dog, which was why the fight started in the first place, hit my friends, fuck up my house. I thought that maybe this boy doesn't understand any other method of behavior, that he forced me to use this last resort with him. I think what bothers me the most is that I shouldn't have had to do this. I should not have been forced to move this kid out of my house. That I should have not been hitting him on my front porch.

Yea, last weekend I beat some kid on my porch. I am not proud of it, nor do I feel any guilt or regret over the act. Now I have to wonder if I am truly non-violent, or even want to be when - when I just raised my fist in anger. I think of why, why I did what I did - was it some primordial impulse to protect my home or a quick way to solve an injustice or have I picked up a bloodlust for idiots... You may feel that I am taking this too seriously, but I disagree because violence is a big deal and it's use should never be taken lightly. As those following a "peace-punk" tradition we need to examine our own actions and those of our comrades as much as the violence perpetrated by nation-states... because we can never forget that we live in a society that perpetrates violence and we are taught to mimic this... but when and what do you do when some idiot is charging you on your front porch...

Once again this is a column with as many questions as these are answers.
—Mike Straight - 218 Buckingham pl, Philadelphia, PA 19104
straight@defenestrator.org

Endnotes:

Well I leave next week for my "annual European trip" with my lovely partner, and hopefully I will come back to Philly more inspired and with a more fucked up accent. I will be back for the Pointless Fest, as I have accepted doing the security role. The worst part about getting into the fight is seeing Greg Daly's mocking smile and words "So Straight, you think you have the temperament, to deal with all the troublemakers that show up at pointless fest" - so there I am talking to Daly, reminding him that "beating the kids" is not some new aspect of my identity, and that I can, yes, still do the security role during Pointless fest.

Oh yea, so that is going well, as I have a good group of people (the punx) who will take on the role. Oh, if you planning to come to the Pointless fest shows to just drink, fight, and be a generic pain-in-the-ass - please don't, but if you do insist on coming to Philly - there is a nice, abandoned oil refinery for you to do that kind of shit in.

Oh, it is also never cool, to beat your dog, of this I am sure of.

Lost In The Supermarket (with greg wells)



little forgotten history this column: The Richmond Bread Riot of 1863

The year was 1863, two years into the Confederate reign in Richmond. The city's population had tripled its pre-war numbers due to a massive influx of soldiers, their families and hangers-on. Overcrowding and lack of adequate food led to widespread thievery and a feeling of desperation. Exasperating the already delicate situation, in February the Confederate Army began rationing food supplies in the Richmond vicinity to conserve them for nearby troops. What scarce food remained was sold for increasingly inflated prices, primarily in the old city marketplace near what is today known as Shockoe Slip. Those hardest impacted by these cut backs were working-class women and their children.

The winter of 1863 lasted through March and into early April. On the first of April, a late-night meeting was held at Belvidere Baptist Church in Oregon Hill to discuss the mounting food crisis. German, Irish, Welsh and native-born women from Oregon Hill, Gamble's Hill and outlying counties were in attendance. Feeling their voices were being ignored, the women decided to take action the following morning with a rally on the capital. The crowd, which numbered in the hundreds and was led by women, demanded to speak to Governor Letcher to deliver their demand of "Bread or Blood." Once they were told he wasn't there, they dispersed towards the marketplace along Cary and Main streets. Along the way, they were joined by more women, as well men and children. Many participants wielded knives, old pistols, axes and hatchets.

The starved Richmonders began looting stores and markets and seizing wagons to haul away their loads. They began by grabbing essential food items such as bacon, flour and bread and later expanded their search to include household goods, jewelry, clothing and shoes. As the mob reached a feverish pitch, Mayor Mayo, Governor Letcher and Confederate President Jefferson

insurance policies and birth control off. That keeps AIDS research, at home and overseas, of little interest to White Wealthy Male America.

But I feel like I'm always talking about reproductive freedom and does anyone even care? I go to shows which are so male, so straight, so fucking typical with women as nurturers and men as the angry musical geniuses. I can't find men willing to play music with me, and the few women who play music are generally either too shy to play in public, or are already playing. The punk scene talks a big wish to eliminate the "isms" of the world, yet bands with people who raped friends of mine are still pictured and championed as leaders in the punk scene. Meanwhile, people write about how rad the scene is when they beat up a rapist, but that's not what I think helps abusers. People who abuse people are often survivors of abuse themselves. That just perpetuates the cycle. And the scene response is quite different when the rapist is in a big popular band. Then, people talk about how nice the person is, how they wouldn't even do such a thing. How the woman must be trying to "work her way up in the scene". People talk about the "grey areas" of what happens in the bedroom instead of talking about what consent, active consent is, where someone says that they WANT to do something. Instead of saying that people deserve whatever happened, or somehow consented to it, if they don't say no, and say no repeatedly, fight and struggle physically. People talk about how rape is between strangers, violent, with active dissent.

I am a survivor of sexual assault from someone I was dating and from two strangers while hitchhiking. They are totally different; they affect me today in different ways. The stranger attack still keeps me up at night, makes me feel like I could never live alone, makes me freak out when I find the front door just fifteen feet from my bedroom unlocked day after day, after numerous conversations with roommates. It makes me almost punch my friends when they sneak up behind me: It makes me practice self defense. It makes me mad at my friends and ex-lover for not understanding me or supporting me through a rough decision to convict the fuckers after I found out they had raped and mutilated several women, murdered at least one woman, before they tried to do these things to me. The sexual assault from an ex lover makes me keep emotional walls between myself and my lovers. It makes me have meaningless sex flings to deviate the act so that I feel like sex isn't really such a big deal, and therefore my first lover who ignored five no's and went ahead when I was sleeping, well, then he really didn't take much from me.

I've been going to the library looking through the RI collection of old newspaper articles, I've been trying to find out about radical groups in Providence. Get my sick head awoken! I found mention of a group called the "Women's Liberation Union" which were apparently protesting and organizing in the 50's and 60's around abortion rights. I look to history when the current world seems dismal. Trying to find the ways people are always struggling amidst seemingly impossible odds. Some days I romanticize the past, what people were doing. Do people have too much distraction these days? Did social upheaval have a better chance forty years ago? Or are we just fucking giving up? Or is the resistance better blocked from public view? Where are all the radicals now? What would they say to us today? What would I say to someone 15 years my junior? I don't want to operate out of anger alone, I don't want every bit of organizing to be a reaction to someone else's action. I want to focus on the creation of really sustainable alternative structures, in cities. How much we have to unlearn in this country is insane, some days I wonder if we can really successfully build an alternative when we are so over saturated with all the shit and decay of American society and the inherent racism, classism, homophobia, sexism. So many collectives fail in large part because of power dynamics between members: Hierarchy which infests our organizations. I do have hope, just not today. I'm too sick, sleeping with skeletons that won't die and are trying to drag me into the abyss.

—merrydeath

nothing to do with the fact that I have a son. When people say that, think what they are leaving out. If raising boys is easy, then raising girls is difficult. This implies that themselves girls are difficult. Before these kids are even born we've got em all figured out, apparently. Yeah, that is really wise.

I can definitely see how the task of raising a daughter could be daunting. In a society that treats women as objects, where women still don't receive equal pay for equal work, where women still encounter violence and even death in the streets and in their homes, the conditions in which we are raising young women are certainly troublesome. Is that their fault? Because they are so difficult? Reminds me of what my grandma used to say about throwing the baby out with the bath water. The thing is, everybody I've ever known who has said these things about how hard it is to raise girls are good, caring people. They are just simplifying things like we all do in order to deal with stuff.

The fact that the world is a tough place on girls makes my job as a mother to a boy really important to me. I don't believe that boys are easy to raise. Well, I believe it would be easy to raise a boy by society's standard. And what I mean is raising a boy to think the world is his oyster and he can have anything in it. Where it gets hard is raising my boy to be a decent human being and not contribute to why things are so tough for girls. At the same time I've got to honor him for what he is, as hokey as that sounds. I've got to raise this kid to be a good person, a decent man, someone who doesn't view himself as part of the problem just because he was born as a boy and yet make him aware that he can be part of the solution. Read that sentence again

something we need to think about. Whether we are parenting, protecting, or dealing with our own mental health. I'm sure we could all benefit from expanding and redefining our list a little, right down to removing "girls are difficult and boys are easy."

—Candyce/P.O. Box 3124/Fort Smith, AR 72913/hellocoldisaster@hotmail.com

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Die Screaming
Roboto, Pittsburgh 3/03

and think about it. Now tell me raising a boy is easy.

When I break it all down in my mind, it comes down to the potential that both girls and boys have to be empowered people. The way that this can happen is different for each, not necessarily harder for one or the other. Now, you may be thinking that men already have a whole lot, if not all, of the power, so why do I need to be talking about empowering little boys? Well, if you ask me, violence and domination is not the same as empowerment. They are tools of power and that is all. If you look at neighborhoods with high violent crime rates you will also find that poverty is prevalent. What we have is a whole lot of people that don't have access to the things that they need to cope and survive, but survival happens anyway. It



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My house is a very open, communal house. We have a lot of events from benefit shows and parties, to political speakers, and queer drag shows. We have an all-ages, open door policy - it is how we are and what we want to promote. This last year we have had a number of occurrences that make us question what we are doing and how "open" we want to be. From a thief, to disrespectful attendee, to straight out violence - these are not the kind of things that I want in my home. Maybe that is why I "broke" on this kid. I broke because this kid first strikes his dog, then had struck a female friend of mine, hit another person, and then when I was moving him out of the house he turned to push me...then, out of frustration, out of something, I pushed him back. Ryan had grabbed him and we all went to the ground, but then when I got up, I started punching.

had to widespread bribery and a meeting of the conspirators. Exasperating the already delicate situation, in February the Confederate Army began rationing food supplies in the Richmond vicinity to conserve them for nearby troops. What scarce food remained was sold for increasingly inflated prices, primarily in the old city marketplace near what is today known as Shockoe Slip. Those hardest impacted by these cut backs were working-class women and their children.

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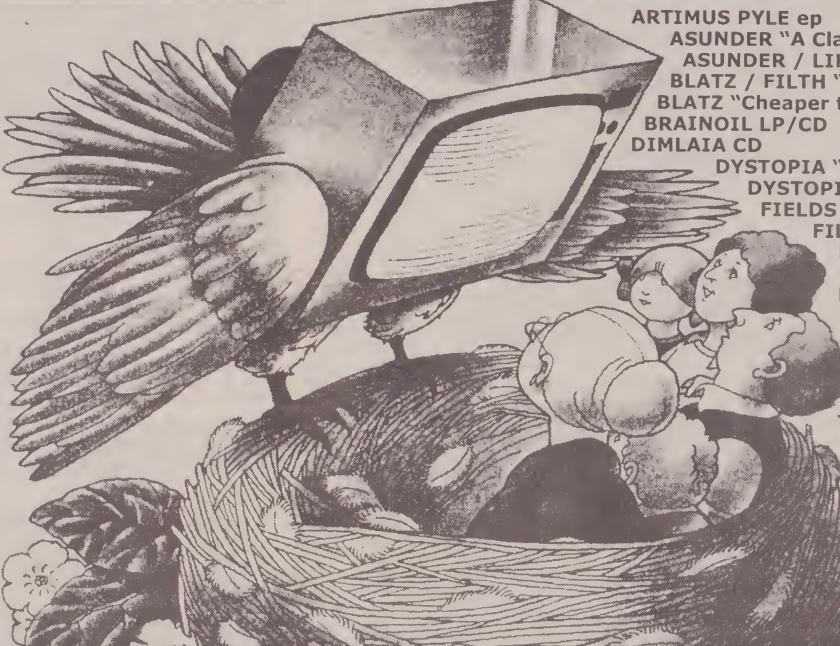
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LE SCRRAWL "Eager to Please" 10" / CDEP

LUDICRA "Hollow Psalms" CD
MEDICATION TIME "One Free Miracle..." LP/CD
NIGEL PEPPER COCK "The New Way" LP/CD
SKEW WHIFF "Taedium Vitae" CD

TARANTULA HAWK (album #1) CD
TARANTULA HAWK (album #2) Gatefold LP
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UNPERSONS "IV - Self Portrait" CDEP
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YETI "Things to Come" LP

EP = \$4.00 / \$6.00 World
CDEP = \$7.00 / \$10.00 World
10" = \$8.00 / \$12.00 World
CD = \$10.00 / \$13.00 World
LP = \$10.00 / \$15.00 World
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were viewed as ringleaders.

The Confederate Military requested that the press not write about what was being referred to as the Richmond Bread Riot, out of fear of there appearing to be an unstable situation in the capital of the Confederacy. Indeed, little was written about the uprising or of the impact that food rationing was having in Virginia and throughout the south. Those accounts that did appear characterized the participants as professional thieves, Yankee opportunists and drags of society. Although similar food riots occurred throughout the Confederacy, none was as large or as successful as the one carried out by the women of Richmond on April 2, 1863.

Endnotes: So, I've just finished retying, reediting and reworking all twelve issues of Complete Control for an anthology book. My friend who runs the famed punk record label, Plan-It-X will be releasing it as PIX's first ever book release. It will be 220 pages and include stories from all past issues as well as some bonus stuff from other sources. If you want to pre-order a copy now, you can get them from me for \$8 PP&P at: PO Box 5021 Richmond, VA, 23220. I will have the books by the first week of June for shipping. They'll also be available through Clamor's mailorder website as well as several distros. I'll be on the upcoming ten band, 40 person PIX traveling festivalfour between mid-June and mid-July and will have plenty of books with me. Come up and say hello. Take care, Greg



Sometimes you just have to say "Fuck Em"

My pen pal told me the other day about how she is sometimes used to living in her own "mutual-aid bubble" and forgets that not everyone operates in that same spirit.

I thought about her, because when I was talking last night I saw things about myself I hadn't noticed before because they were so normal to me. I saw I have a different definition of power than many folks and that is the one I have been trying to teach my daughter.

I was sharing a few drinks and conversing with someone who is my own age (39) who has lived on the fringes of "alternative" culture but never really in the radical one. So me and this person - we were casually discussing the power of looking good; who has the upper hand in a relationship; and manipulating relationships by playing hard to get or other techniques to psychologically get the upper hand. I could relate to her (to a degree) when we were sharing growing up stories but as she asked me some questions about my daughter, I realized how differently we thought.

I told her that I believe it is hard to be a young girl growing up, regardless of the situation.

I told her that I have always tried to give my daughter the intellectual reasoning of saying "Fuck You". (True in her early teenage-hood it seems that she mostly said "Fuck You" to me. But I hope she says it to a lot of other folks too. "Fuck You" - is a wonderful family value and mental tool to have.)

OK for instance: a big Fuck You to the glossy magazine "standard" images of beauty. They are boring. Women in real life come in so many diverse, unique and cultural combinations - and I truly believe Beauty comes in all shapes and sizes. It's not some PC thing I think I ought to think. I see this around me as the truth. I see how we enslave ourselves with images and are bad to ourselves - dwelling on our "faults" in some upright manner like our belly is sticking out when probably people are much more noticing how your boobs are sticking out and the sound of your laughter (for instance). People can be mean, petty, and prejudiced - but often their meanness to others is part of their whole mental landscape where they themselves are living as a prisoner. I try to arm my daughter with the intellectual reasoning to love and defend herself from idiot's lookism.

Another thing I said is that I am used to gaining self-esteem from things one does; not surface level things. Like I explained to her, I think my daughter gains a lot of self-confidence from her different abilities. I know last year she felt noticed and special when people liked how she collages her notebooks. She would be asked to draw on banners. She began to become known as "the creative one". She designed clothes and made a wild array of duct tape purses too - taking it beyond the point I have ever seen others do - and people genuinely admired her creations. I know my daughter feels good about herself when she does stuff she never did before - like how she is now working as a prep cook; making her own money, handling that normal restaurant stress just fine. She cooked meatloaf and hot milk sponge cake on her first day by herself with a recipe. As she cut up the

away - and maybe sometimes they can, but fuck them, you can heal and get it back. It is an inner quality. You can give your power away. You can buy into the system that puts you down. But this is your choice.

The kind of power I try to cultivate, the kind of power I try to raise my daughter with, is an inner power and never a "power over" others. How are you really winning in the end - by playing any game?

I'm not against buying something that makes you feel pretty on the outside, eating sugar, doing what you want to do just cuz you want to do it, or feeling your honest to goodness dog instincts. Woof! Its just that I also use my head to think myself out of situations, and my heart that really doesn't want to put anyone else down or be put down by them. I know we can all shine. I know there is enough for everyone to have enough. Physical things are important but so much strength does come from the inside. I know that energy - that giving things away - that sharing - is an energy that continues to circle around. It is way better to be around people who have a sense of balance and give and take - than those who snatch everything for their own personal gain and don't give back.

I've been reading the *Cometbus Omnibus* lately - *Despite Everything*. Hopefully, if everything goes right, I will have an anthology of my zine, *The Future Generation* (15 years I been doing my zine!) out - next year. So I was looking at it for an example of how one makes a book from their zine. I love *Cometbus!* I really do. I was having a renewed appreciation for Aaron's writing - and again, sometimes principles you live with that you almost take for granted as just normal.

In issue #29/21, "On Zines" he wrote "It's been punk culture that kept the word alive and then pushed it to its present possibilities. It's been punk culture that nurtured and revitalized the small underground press the same way it nurtured and revitalized vinyl and cassette tapes and film and fashion and rock-n-roll and to some extent, radical art and radical politics. Each time we've been sold out of our hype and hard work, pillaged of our resources, had the lamest surface aspects of our culture commodified and marketed, and then we've shoved back into a corner and treated with condescending snideness. Then we're offered to buy a watered down version of our own culture at an inflated price. Worst of all, we convince ourselves that we're helpless and must follow the example of corporate culture (for example, putting out CD's) or face extinction. Nonsense. Our culture is independent and strong. They are following OUR example. They need US to survive. You may think I'm a raving lunatic, but I just think we should stop selling ourselves short."

OK - I know some of you might not relate to the punk rock love (but hay this is *Slug & Lettuce* so you probably can). I don't really consider myself a "punk" anymore. But this is where I came from, I got to see the good things. And I see the spirit continue - so you can like replace Punk if you want to with like ... Experimental Noise... or whatever the fuck you are into. Truth, Beauty, and Chaos. Independent local scenes; touring, staying with others; co-operative business; cheese, vegetables and Banjo's. You know?

"There is people who are trying to take the wind from our sails. People like "cafe magazine" - the zine for the 90's show up out of nowhere with a large circulation and a reprinted selection of what they label "the best" of the Bay Area's small press. I have told them that if they really wanted to help local small press, they would help the individual mags get printed and distributed. They disagree. Instead they play big daddy and oh-so charitably "help" the little mags by selectively pillaging their creative efforts. It is not the first time someone with more money and more connections has moved in to co-opt and shape and in effect edit a whole scene. Fuck their "help", and the help of the next people who show up to put their own banner on our momentum and our work."

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ships (as well as personal esteem and genuineness) are more important than book deals. (But we want book deals too!) We can do a lot more working together than in that cold, dog eat dog world, where no one does a damn thing without expecting personal gain. Luckily, and I am so lucky, I live in a world where it seems sharing comes natural for most people: my neighbors, people just walking down the street (I give my cigarette butt to Joey, he takes a drag and gives it to the next bum he bumps into walking down the street), art and music weirdo's. I appreciate it. None of us got here by ourselves. Everybody needs a helping hand and it all goes around. Maybe not perfectly. But almost good enough to make it through another day.

- China

The Future Generation, a zine for subculture parents, kids, friends + others #14 "the work issue" is available now for \$3 from P.O. Box 4803 Baltimore MD 21211



Ten years ago while doing vegan outreach the most common reason for folks not giving the vegan diet a try was because of a lack of availability and limited options. Clearly this is not an issue today. Almost every restaurant has some kind of option with many wait staff even knowing what vegan means. Health food stores are popping up everywhere and the regular grocery chains have expanding health food sections. College cafeterias are expanding their veg options and even developing vegan stations for students. We are seeing and hearing the word vegan more and more every year. It has clearly become much easier to eat a vegan diet.

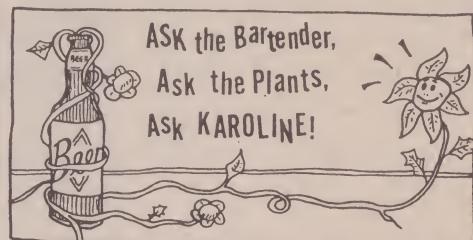
These days the most common issue people bring up in protest of a vegan diet is the cost. They are shopping the health food stores and are convinced they cannot eat a vegan diet because of the price of the "replacement" foods targeting vegetarians and vegans. For those of us who were already veg when these foods came out, we were amazed. Soy ice cream, soy pepperoni, soy cheese, and donuts - these made our diets exciting. Or did they really? What I am now realizing now is how unnecessary many of these foods are, especially in a healthy diet. And they are even more unhealthy for the wallet. I do recognize that they serve as helpful transition foods ("Wow. I can't believe how good this veg bacon is! Maybe I can eliminate bacon from my breakfast") but usually they are not as healthy as whole foods and they are much more expensive.

Cost is clearly an issue for many of us and I realize it is especially for folks considering a vegan diet. What I explain is that the expensive health foods are for special occasions (turkey for the holidays or soy ice cream for movie night) and for specialty items. For example, I go to pick up bulk items such as grains, flour, spices, and tofu as well as the items that the regular grocery store does not carry such as the vegansse and soy margarine and I do the rest of my shopping at the local grocery store. I could not afford to shop exclusively from the health food store and neither could most folks for that matter. In addition, most of these replacement foods are highly processed and lower in nutritional value than whole grains and fresh foods. Whole foods can actually be some of the most inexpensive to buy (rice, beans, vegetables and fruits) and we forget that as we are inundated with advertising and marketing our culture has been brainwashed to want meat.

Most Delicious Pesto - 1 bunch of cilantro (or basil), 1 clove minced garlic, 1/8 cup almonds, 1 tbsp sesame seeds or expensive pine nuts, 1/4 cup olive oil. In a food processor chop up almonds fine, add garlic and chop, add cilantro and seeds and chop, add oil and mix well adding a little of salt and pepper if you wish. Serve hot or cold and it freezes really well too.

Bodacious Biscuits - 2 cups flour, 3 teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt, 1/4 cup margarine, 3/4 cup soymilk. Mix dry ingredients first then cut in margarine and add soymilk. Roll it out and cut with an upside down glass. Bake at 475 for 12 minutes.

Crantastic Vinegrette - 1 cup cranberries or 1/2 can whole cran sauce, 1 cup water, 1/2 cup sugar. Boil and simmer for 20 minutes. Then add 1 tbsp minced ginger, 1 small clove garlic, 1 tbsp Dijon mustard, 1/3 cup red wine or rice vinegar and 2 tbsp maple syrup. Blend or process and refrigerate. Enjoy!



Spring Cleaning... I haven't written a column for awhile and I'm feeling a bit rusty. I'm gonna keep this one short and sweet, because the combined forces of procrastination (I'm waaaay past the S&L deadline) and inspiration are at a bit of a loggerhead with me these days. There's always a column spiraling through my head, but when challenged to sit down in front of the computer and actually get all of the bits and pieces out of my head and on to the screen, it's like pulling teeth or putting off that all important spring cleaning. You know that you'll be glad when you actually do it. It's just the doing that becomes another obstacle to overcome. Another addition to the eternal 'to-do' list.

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I'm not always a big fan of fests... too many bands in one day tends to make me a little grouchy. On the upside, you tend to see lots of familiar faces from across the country in one place and that family reunion quality makes all the difference when all the music starts to sound the same. Christine came out to attend the Chicago festivities with us and we had a fucking blast! We rocked the goth dance floor with Michelle, Skell, To What End? and Riistetyl (well... they rocked and I drank Stella Artois and loved every minute of watching the punks dance to Depeche Mode, Ministry and New Order), we slept in the van, ate amazing food (especially the amazingly bad burrito/bad direction combo), got crazed on caffeine and sparks (gotta love the tell-tale orange lips!), sold some books for AK Press, watched the various punk rock soap operas spin out of control and just had fantastic weekend. Please be on the lookout for Chicago's own CONDENADA who (for me) absolutely stole the whole fucking Sunday show. 4 women full of fire and passion and politics that rocked me in a way that I'd almost forgotten was possible. I spent their whole set with a huge ass grin on my face, my fist in the air and chills running down my spine... and the fact that they had a Big Boys song in the set list was just the icing on the cake. TO WHAT END? and I ATTACK were also amazing. A big round of applesause to Chicago and Sweden. Thanks for the inspiration! Thanks also to Chloe, for being the best adopted "punk-rock" daughter ever.

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In conclusion, I'm really excited about the upcoming gardening season. Our household plans to double the size of our garden project. As long as we don't plant the same plants in the same place, this year's garden should be a success. I'm not sure if we'll have a bumper crop, but I'm excited to see what we grow.



The Future Generation

Sometimes you just have to say "Fuck Em."

My pen pal told me the other day about how she is sometimes used to living in her own "mutual-aid bubble" and forgets that not everyone operates in that same spirit.

I thought about her, because when I was talking last night I saw things about myself I hadn't noticed before because they were so normal to me. I saw I have a different definition of power than many folks and that is the one I have been trying to teach my daughter.

I was sharing a few drinks and conversing with someone who is my own age (39) who has lived on the fringes of "alternative" culture but never really in the radical one. So me and this person - we were casually discussing the power of looking good; who has the upper hand in a relationship; and manipulating relationships by playing hard to get or other techniques to psychologically get the upper hand. I could relate to her (to a degree) when we were sharing growing up stories but as she asked me some questions about my daughter, I realized how differently we thought.

I told her that I believe it is hard to be a young girl growing up, regardless of the situation.

I told her that I have always tried to give my daughter the intellectual reasoning of saying "Fuck You". (True in her early teenage-hood it seems that she mostly said "Fuck You" to me. But I hope she says it to a lot of other folks too. "Fuck You" - is a wonderful family value and mental tool to have.)

OK for instance: a big Fuck You to the glossy magazine "standard" images of beauty. They are boring. Women in real life come in so many diverse, unique and cultural combinations - and I truly believe Beauty comes in all shapes and sizes. It's not some PC thing I think I ought to think. I see this around me as the truth. I see how we enslave ourselves with images and are bad to ourselves - dwelling on our "faults" in some uptight manner like our belly is sticking out when probably people are much more noticing how your boobs are sticking out and the sound of your laughter (for instance). People can be mean, petty, and prejudiced—but often their meanness to others is part of their whole mental landscape where they themselves are living as a prisoner. I try to arm my daughter with the intellectual reasoning to love and defend herself from idiot's lookism.

Another thing I said is that I am used to gaining self-esteem from things one does; not surface level things. Like I explained to her: I think my daughter gains a lot of self-confidence from her different abilities. I know last year she felt noticed and special when people liked how she collages her notebooks. She would be asked to draw on banners. She began to become known as "the creative one".

She designed clothes and made a wild array of duct tape purses too - taking it beyond the point I have ever seen others do—and people genuinely admired her creations. I know my daughter feels good about herself when she does stuff she never did before - like how she is now working as a prep cook: making her own money, handling that normal restaurant stress just fine. She cooked meatloaf and hot milk sponge cake on her first day by herself with a recipe. As she cut up the celery she made a rose garnish from the end of it that the cook was impressed with and wanted to use. I mean I am super proud of her - I always knew she was a really good cook - but damn.

And my daughter is kinda tough. I mean she is really sensitive and vulnerable but... she's been through a lot of shit. Things that are hard, things that don't work out. And she is kick ass in some ways. It's something you earn. Yea - that's what I'm trying to say: Power is something you pull out of yourself. Power is resourcefulness and creativity. Its finding out that you are good at something and working at it, loving it. It's finding out something inside you that no one can take

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In conclusion, I'm really excited about the upcoming gardening season. Our household plans to double the size of our garden project. As long as we don't plant too many tomatoes again this year, everything should be just great. Here's to a summer filled with punk rock, farmer's markets, dumpster diving, bike riding, refreshing beverages (herbal, alcohol, caffeine & water) and protesting all the bullshit coming from the religious right wing wackos and the horrifying horseshit of the bush administration. Take care of yourselves — karoline c/o Fuel Cafe/ 818 E. Center St./Milwaukee, WI 53212 /theroadiegirl@hotmail.com/ PS: Be on the lookout for the exciting expansion of FUEL CAFE this fall! PPS: Be on the lookout for the SUBHUMANS & CITIZEN FISH in the midwest and east coast in July!!!



All You Can Eat
SELL/05

fast") but usually they are not as healthy as whole foods and they are much more expensive.

Cost is clearly an issue for many of us and I realize it is especially for folks considering a vegan diet. What I explain is that the expensive health foods are for special occasions (turkey for the holidays or soy ice cream for movie night) and for specialty items. For example, I go to pick up bulk items such as grains, flour, spices, and tofu as well as the items that the regular grocery store does not carry such as the veggie and soy margarine and I do the rest of my shopping at the local grocery store. I could not afford to shop exclusively from the health food store and neither could most folks for that matter. In addition, most of these replacement foods are highly processed and lower in nutritional value than whole grains and fresh foods. Whole foods can actually be some of the most inexpensive to buy (rice, beans, vegetables and fruits) and we forget that we are inundated with advertising and expand our desire for food beyond our need for nutrition.

Secondly, most of the foods we eat on a regular basis can be made by hand very inexpensively with a little extra time planned into your day or week. DIY pesto, hummus, granola, veggie burgers, smoothies, and the list goes on and on. It is fun to make these yourself especially when you have folks over to share food that you've made from scratch. Not only does it cost less but it tastes so much better as well. And, it inspires your friends to make their own food too which is awesome. So, I'm including some recipes for easy stuff to make and keep around to eat on a regular basis and save you some money.

xoxo - krissi



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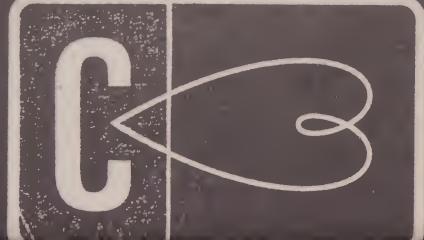
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Sappy Ending...

Thanks so much to Christine, Arwen Curry, Golnar, Clara, Martin, Dug, Robert, Kelli-Kelli, John & Polly, Ramsey, Kate and ALL YOU CAN EAT for making my January trip to San Francisco so fucking incredible. Extra special thanks to Floyd for making it all actually happen. You're the best, Mr. Floyd!

In conclusion, I'm really excited about the upcoming gardening season. Our household plans to double the size of our garden project. As long as we don't plant too many tomatoes again this year, everything should be just great. Here's to a summer filled with punk rock, farmer's markets, dumpster diving, bike riding, refreshing beverages (herbal, alcohol, caffeine & water) and protesting all the bullshit coming from the religious right wing wackos and the horrifying horseshit of the bush administration. Take care of yourselves - karoline c/o Fuel Cafe/ 818 E. Center St. Milwaukee, WI 53212/theroadiegirl@hotmail.com? PS- Be on the lookout for the exciting expansion of FUEL CAFE this fall! PPS- Be on the lookout for the SUBHUMANS & CITIZEN FISH in the midwest and east coast in July!!!

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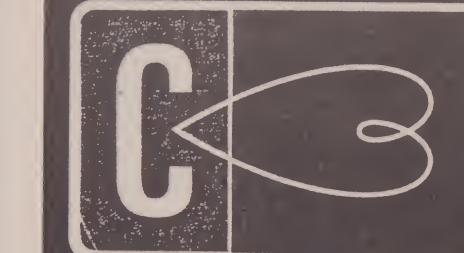
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BOOKS

DIRECT ACTION by Ann Hansen

Was led to believe by a couple reviews I read that this book would be a dry, academic account undermining the subtitle "Memoirs of an Urban Guerrilla" with political rationalizations and sectarian posturing. Holy shit, not at all! This book is amazing on more than one level. Written novel-like, it is completely absorbing. The early 80's in Vancouver, B.C., Canada; a few like-minded anarchists decide to prepare for going underground and becoming urban guerrillas attacking the capitalist/government infrastructure. While wishing to avoid being vanguardist, they hoped to carry out actions and help introduce the idea of revolutionary action in North America, as revolutionary movements were happening in the so-called Third World. Hansen was one of the members of their group Direct Action, and she starts the book by recounting the day they were all arrested, as they went to the mountains for target practice. The tension here is a good device to place the reader in a different mood/mind-set before she starts from the beginning. Hansen chose to write a narrative in a novel-like structure and even fictionalize certain aspects—mainly by creating a composite police investigator provide a counter-point protagonist. While this choice could be criticized, I think she did the right thing as the book is easy to read and essential facts are unchanged.

Weapons practice, stealing cars and dynamite, fake ID's, and sabotage against a powerline and a company that manufactured guidance systems for U.S. nukes (this action caused numerous injuries and the resulting feelings, news stories, and effects on above-ground groups is detailed): all this heady stuff could easily be romanticized and the mistakes and injuries could be glossed over, etc. Hansen doesn't do this because she, like most anarchists, cares and has compassion. It isn't just the narrative structure of a novel, then, that prevents romanticizing, as all the "characters" involved are treated as humans: from the paranoia, worry, and second-doubts of the group to the people injured to the cops and security guards. I couldn't stop reading this book, and had to pause every now and again to remind myself that they actually did this stuff. It was real. That said, this isn't a vainglorious account or superficial rationalization of what they did wrong. The depth of thought and introspection she provides counterbalances any romanticizing of the direct action.

This also isn't a recitation of her anarchist beliefs. It's an emotional, mostly honest account of people who gave a fuck and were moved to try and do something about the screwed-up world we live in. Please keep in mind, while reading this, that some of the shit they got away with would be close to impossible in our current computerized, security-control society. Caught now, or in the U.S., I doubt she'd have "only" served seven years in prison.

The most important aspects of this book, aside from the well-written personal tale, are the discussions that the group members have amongst each other and with others—such as native people. Through the background information on why they chose to become urban guerrillas, to the information on why their targets were chosen (porno stores, in the case of the Wimmin's Brigade) to their personal discussion over reasons, history, current reality, and beliefs: this is also a political primer on the way our societies are structured and how they operate. Given the group's activities and commitment, these conversations have an urgency to them that many a dry essay cannot match.

One of the conversations that comes up repeatedly, as the group talked over guerrilla movements, was how revolutionaries require a large base of support in the general population in order to be effective. Recognizing that they lacked this support in North America—a common nationality responding to colonialism, a common politic or ideology amongst a large swath of people—they decided to still carry on in the hopes they'd spark a debate and get more people to commit to radical, direct action against environmental destruction, capitalism, etc. This didn't happen.

Seems to me, that most people who call themselves revolutionaries today—or encourage revolutionary action—aren't talking about this need for a base of support in the general population. Or even in their own communities or scenes. Some anarchists or revolutionary-types will even stifle debate on the topic or refuse to even acknowledge its existence. It strikes me as pre-mature to call for revolutionary (dangerous) action when there is no support. The nob anarchist striking a blow against the vast machine of oppression has a certain romantic appeal, but, in real life, sacrificing one's life or relative freedom hardly seems beneficial. I think that anyone calling themselves a revolutionary in North America today needs a firm understanding of the political, social, and cultural mainstream, its history, and the varying levels of people's beliefs and realities. There needs to be an ongoing discussion anarchist/revolutionary circles about the effectiveness of militant direct action versus creating and supporting the kind of communities we like to see. It is very easy to spout off some tough sounding shit, and very hard to make meaningful connections with other people—especially with people who believe differently. Direct Action took the guerrilla road seriously, but with no roots in community, they died on the vine. It is pretty clear that anarchists don't have enough support and sympathy in the general population. We can't even keep people out of jail, so it strikes me as irresponsible to put up militant action

and some punks themselves, that punk is a failed revolutionary movement. Looking solely at the more anarchist and political scenes of punk (by no means a clear majority), I think that the criticism is valid, given the revolutionary rhetoric and militant exhortations of many bands and individuals, punk has not lived up to its lofty ideals and calls for action. Of course, this could be said about most anarchist groups active today.

I think it is a mistake to look at punk as a revolutionary movement. It is too diverse, so the anarchist and revolution stuff is but a part of the whole. As an anarchist punk, it has taken me a while to let go of my experience and hopes as the ones that should represent punk as a whole. That is, measured by the rhetoric of revolutionary punk, punk has failed. Taken as an aggregate whole, punk is doing just fine, thank you.

Interviewing a couple local bands, one of the members said something about how there are only so many misfits and fuck-ups in any group of humans. Punk is a place for those freaks who don't fit in and find punk a place to be, a community. Whatever form that takes, essentially, there are only so many people who will find worth and motivation within punk. A revolutionary movement has to rely on cross-group support; that is, commonality, or, as history shows more prominently, on identities, beliefs, and shared oppression shared by large numbers of a population. Since punk doesn't have this commonality, to call it a revolutionary movement is to elevate it into a vanguard position, if I can use that tired concept again. Punk isn't a national or cultural identity, nor a religion, and attempts to delineate a shared oppression with larger populations (class, environmental, etc.) haven't exactly been successful. The majority of people aren't interested in our music, styles, and politics. Quite simply, people aren't going to be convinced to join.

Punks can form our own communities and collectively or individually be a part of various communities or coalitions, but punk can't be a revolutionary movement by itself. That's the wrong way to look at it. Punk can't be that movement because of all those things certain anarchists and others complain about. Our looks, our focus on music and the scene, and our often sneering rejection of the "normals". Rather than a movement, I think of punk as communities where the freaks and the marginalized can find acceptance and support each other as people who don't fit in the mainstream—or the larger culture or any of its minorities. Building and strengthening our punk communities can only help us navigate the shit in the world while hopefully allowing us to connect with other people who with we do have some shared values. That is, we're not trying to convert others to our cause, we're who we are and doing what we do. Our politics and actions may resonate with and mirror other group's and that means we can work together for common goals, but we shouldn't have to give up who we are to do this. Free communities of like-minded people each working together—or not respectfully, is the ultimate goal of anarchy. I think, so building and supporting our punk communities is a positive action. (Ryan Mishap/PO Box 5841 Eugene, OR 97405 USA)



RAMBO
Chicago Fest 3/05



DVD REVIEWS

A HUNDRED DOLLARS AND A T-SHIRT: A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT ZINES IN THE NORTHWEST US

If you've seen the zine the Stolen Sharpie Revolution, if you've been to the Portland Zine Symposium, if you do a zine yourself, if you want to, or if you are interested in the

AGAINST ME! - WE'RE NEVER GOING HOME DVD: I think everybody who's ever been into punk rock for any length of time deals with a certain amount of frustration when bands that they like get picked up by major labels, gain new fans, interviews that you might not necessarily want to hang out with at a show, or change their sound to fit a mold cast for them by the puppeteers at some major record label (corporate or indie). This DVD is a documentary of a band filmed at the cusp of hugeness. It's filled with live footage, pranking galore (they lock a very popular band in their dressing room!), praise from fans, shit-talking from former fans, interviews, and a whole bunch of major label courtship. I have loved Against Me! From the first note I heard them play and this DVD made me love them even more as I watched them give the F-U in forty-foot-tall, flashing, orange Lite-Bright letters to one label after another. I'm stoked that Against Me! have refused to change their punk rock ways despite popularity beyond their wildest dreams. This video features guest appearances from a who's who of the punk rock community and the rest of us, too. It also has songs from Lucero, Planes Mistaken for Stars, None More Black, and No Choice. Simply brilliant and very well put together. (Fat Wreck Chords/PO Box 19360/SF CA 94119/www.fatwreck.com) (-TNT)

ANTI-FLAG: DEATH OF A NATION DVD

Okay, it's no secret that I love Anti-Flag and have for years. But I haven't actually seen them play live in many many years and this DVD contains a lot of live footage which shows me just how popular they have become, because they're playing in huge venues on massive stages with tons of kids in the audience and it's kinda weird. But it's well done. The live footage alternates between a couple of venues, and there are loads of camera involved so that it's interesting and well covered and not the kind of thing where you have one camera plopped down through a whole set. No, instead this is done song by song (so you can skip or play each track) and each song of the 23 songs are tilted with location and I just can't get over the huge stage for these skinny boys who take up no space at all. None the less, the filming is great, and Anti-Flag do their thing. The majority of this is live footage, but there are also 3 different music videos included: Death of a Nation and Post-War Breakout, both of which are awesomely done with all kinds of strong imagery about the current state of the world. And then the Turncoat video features them playing in a studio, and includes the "making of footage" which is really pretty damn fun to watch and it's painful to realize how long and tedious the process of making a video (or an album) can be. There are a few other bits listed as being on (band interview, radio show, storyboards) which I must have missed in the menu, but all told there's an enormous amount of footage of here and it's well done. More than ever Anti-Flag are like a cross between the Bouncing Souls and Social Distortion with an incredible focus on smart politics aimed at making a young generation of pop-punkers more aware. And there are still a few old timers like me who are fans with respect for their methods. (-Chris)

OUR BODIES OUR CHOICE: A DOCUMENTARY OF THE MARCH FOR WOMEN'S LIVES

This is a short 20 minute video that packs a powerful and intense punch. It's a document of the incredible March for Women's Lives in DC last April (04) and it does a fantastic job of including the diverse voices of many rad women who in their own ways say that they are pissed and won't shut quietly by and let the government pass law after law to silence women and erode the choice of control over reproductive rights.

The march was incredible, with record numbers. The show of strength from women was inspiring. The signs, the dances, the cheers are all moving. This documentary has an emphasis on the radical cheer and noise bloc, and shows the cheers and drumming and chants about our bodies, our choice, and our rights. But the film makers talk to a number of people, many older women who have intense stories to tell. Women who had abortions 40 years ago and women who have worked in hospitals where women have come after illegal abortions. These women's experiences are moving and emotional, and honestly this brief film brought tears to my eyes several times, through the horrors some have experienced to the inspired passion of all who are standing up and saying "NO, we won't take it, we will fight back." This film is inspiring. Sad that with a million and a half people making a strong impact, the laws are still endangered and our rights are still being taken from us. So watch this film, get inspired, and don't stop fighting. (PMS Media/120 1/2 W, Cottage Flagstaff AZ 86001/www.pmsmedia.org/poisonberry@pmsmedia.org) (-Chris)

THE RAMEN DAYS: BAY AREA HARDCORE DOCUMENTED

Burnt Ramen was an illegal venue in Oakland CA, that had regular shows for a few years and was a favorite among locals. This is an excellent video, which documents some of the bands that were involved regularly in the space and have kind of a family-like relationship, especially in the inter-relations and shared members. This is well done, uniquely filmed and does a great job of capturing the feeling of the place, the passion of those who frequented it, and also conveys some of the attitudes and ideals of the bands and the general Bay area HC scene in the recent years. There is a year of footage captured (though I don't see the actual year credited here). There is a chaotic feeling that reminds me of documented footage of Reagan's 80s era punk, and it's not so surprising that this is a generation of punk and hardcore that is post-bay area financial crash during the Bush years—ripe material for poor, angry and pissed off punks. The "no rules" attitude of Burnt Ramen works because there does seem to be a general understanding of how things should be, and the internal problems are dealt with. There is a lot about this that reminds me of ABC NO RIO in the early 90s: the right time in the right place when things were chaotic and raw and amazing. When there are no rules, but self-rule and it's done as long as it can be gotten away with. Sadly Burnt Ramen's doors have closed cause the city wanted them to get legit, and they refused.

Though I never had the chance to go there, there is still a lot that is familiar for me in this video - in the faces, the crowds and the bands and the feeling. The filming and editing is well done. This is not the sort of video where you watch live sets through and through. The editing is fast and clipped, and you meet the bands and jump between interviews, live sets, collage clips, still footage and some tight editing that brings many different bands and individuals comments on the same topic. Especially

stories, and effects on above-ground groups is detailed); all this heavy stuff could easily be romanticized and the mistakes and injuries could be glossed over, etc. Hansen doesn't do this because she, like most anarchists, cares and has compassion. It isn't just the narrative structure of a novel, then, that prevents romanticizing, as all the "characters" involved are treated as humans: from the paranoia, worry, and second-doubts of the group to the people injured to the cops and security guards. I couldn't stop reading this book, and had to pause every now and again to remind myself that they actually did this stuff! It was real. That said, this isn't a vainglorious account or superficial rationalization of what they did wrong. The depth of thought and introspection she provides counterbalances any romanticizing of the direct action.

This also isn't a recitation of her anarchist beliefs. It's an emotional, mostly honest account of people who gave a fuck and were moved to try and do something about the screwed-up world we live in. Please keep in mind, while reading this, that some of the shit they got away with would be close to impossible in our current computerized, security-control society. Caught now, or in the U.S., I doubt she'd have "only" served seven years in prison.

The most important aspects of this book, aside from the well-written personal tale, are the discussions that the group members have amongst each other and with others—such as native people. Through the background information on why they chose to become urban guerrillas, to the information on why their targets were chosen (posters, in the case of the Winnin's Brigade) to their personal discussion over reasons, history, current reality, and beliefs: this is also a political primer on the way our societies are structured and how they operate. Given the group's activities and commitment, these conversations have an urgency to them that many a dry essay cannot match.

One of the conversations that comes up repeatedly, as the group talked over guerrilla movements, was how revolutionaries require a large base of support in the general population in order to be effective. Recognizing that they lacked this support in North America—a common nationality responding to colonialism, a common politics or ideology amongst a large swath of people—they decided to still carry on in the hopes they'd spark a debate and get more people to commit to radical, direct action against environmental destruction, capitalism, etc. This didn't happen.

Seems to me, that most people who call themselves revolutionaries today—or encourage revolutionary action—aren't talking about this need for a base of support in the general population. Or, even in their own communities or scenes. Some anarchists or revolutionary-types will even stifle debate on the topic or refuse to even acknowledge its existence. It strikes me as pre-mature to call for revolutionary (dangerous) action when there is no support. The noble anarchist striking a blow against the vast machine of oppression has a certain romantic appeal, but, in real life, sacrificing one's life or relative freedom hardly seems beneficial. I think that anyone calling themselves a revolutionary in North America today needs a firm understanding of the political, social, and cultural mainstream, its history, and the varying levels of people's beliefs and realities. There needs to be an ongoing discussion in anarchist/revolutionary circles about the effectiveness of militant direct action versus creating and supporting the kind of communities we like to see. It is very easy to spout off some tough sounding shit, and very hard to make meaningful connections with other people—especially with people who believe differently. Direct Action took the guerrilla road seriously, but with no roots in community, they died on the vine. It is pretty clear that anarchists don't have enough support and sympathy in the general population. We can't even keep people out of jail, so it strikes me as irresponsible to puff up militant action with no possibility of backing and support.

Another interesting aspect of the book is the presence of punk rock. While two members of the group were punks, they weren't part of the initial core. For those three, whose coming of age pre-dated punk, the scene was seen as a rambunctious outlet for disaffected kids. They attended shows, but didn't look at punk rock as being a potential revolutionary movement.

There's this tension in punk rock overall, involving aims, ideas, hopes, and practice: is punk rock a revolutionary movement for liberation, nihilistic rage, a community of outsiders, a sub-culture, or a mix of everything? You know the answer! The criticism often floats around, coming from anarchists, other radicals

a revolutionary movement is to elevate it into a vainglorious position, if I can use that tired concept again. Punk isn't a national or cultural identity, nor a religion, and attempts to delineate a shared oppression with larger populations (class, environmental, etc.) haven't exactly been successful. The majority of people aren't interested in our music, styles, and politics. Quite simply, people aren't going to be convinced to join.

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Portland area. Portland is a rad city for zine making because it truly has a zine community. It's a zine friendly city with the Independent Resource Publishing Center providing great resources and there is also a zine store, Reading Frenzy. The resources to create zines, and the outlets to make them available to others really foster a friendly environment towards self-publishing. And in part due to the great resource center and library, there is an ability to be crafty and go beyond the standard Xerox zine, which in many places is the norm. A Hundred Dollars covers Xeroxing, as well as letterpress and offset printing. Zinesters from different walks of experience, talk about how they got started and what keeps them going; the hard work and the rewards. How do get or do distribution, as well as some responses on zine reviews. This documentary is indigenous to Portland and the NW so the people contributing are all living and publishing in this area. Since many of these folks came from other places originally, this does not limit the experiences in any way. We find out a bit about the origins of zines, as well as what limitations define zines in the interviewees opinion, and also if it's possible or what it would mean to sell out. The general consensus is that zine publishing is a passion that is self-expressive to writers and artists and those who have quirky obsessive interests and feel the need to put their ideas out there. It's generally agreed that no money will ever be made and fame or coolness is unlikely and only comes by accident, and that most zinesters are, have been, and likely always will be the nerds and outcasts of their group. It's also generally agreed that zines are small and will stay small. Zines with advertising or that are for sale may border as qualifying as a zine for some, while others want to get their message to a large audience and will do whatever it takes. The general tone of this film and the zinesters included, is that zine making is a hobby, that in a perfect world one could dedicate more time to, and that it all stems from a pure do-it-yourself ethical point of view.

My only real criticism of this comes from noting that while it was mentioned that no one makes money on zines, no one really said that often times even if it costs \$5 to print a zine, you are still expected to sell it for \$1, even though we all know free copies are harder to come by. Also that while trading zines is rad, it's not fair to assume that everyone wants to do so, or be mad at people if they don't. It's important to remember that everyone has different ideas on things, and to not set up these expectations that there are norms, which must be followed, even though a lot of those standards are awesome, sometimes they limit people and push people away when that should not be the issue at hand. The group of people included seem to have pretty similar ideas on the totally DIY aspects of zines, so I just feel it important to note there are other points of view. That and that some of the filming angles are awkward and really don't change throughout the various interviews. But honestly, that is a small detail and it more of an artistic aesthetic, which is not that important in getting the general points of view across, in which this film is very successful.

What is really cool about this is that while there are zine trends, there is also a zine or a zine maker who will break the mold. And while there are some accepted ways of doing things and plenty of guidelines that could be offered from collected years of experience by other self-publishers, ultimately the world of zines is an open and free one, to interpretation and expression. And you may likely be held accountable for what you write, but hopefully others will also respect you in the process. This focuses on the positive aspects of zine making with a pro-active and supportive message that is about encouraging people to create amazing zines. And whether you are a novice or have years of experience in publishing, whether you think you know it all or know that you know nothing at all, this is a film that will teach you something, and it's impossible not to be inspired by all that is offered here. And it's pretty cool to simply to see some of the faces behind those printed pages. In many ways this film was like going to the Portland Zine Symposium: you meet some old and new friends who's faces you've never seen or don't see often enough, you see a wide variety of self-publishing with a variety of techniques, styles and genres represented, you feel the passion of other people's passions, you take away some new ideas and inspiration, and acknowledge with some respect those people who are making the resources available to share their knowledge and in this case document our very unique community (or culture). I think it's rad. And I recommend this. (\$8 on DVD and \$10 on VHS/ Microcosm/ 5307 N Minnesota Ave/Portland OR 97217-4551/www.microcosmpublishing.com) (-Chris)

23 songs are filled with location and I just can't get over the huge stage for these skinny boys who take up no space at all. None the less, the filming is great, and Anti-Flag do their thing. The majority of this is live footage, but there are also 3 different music videos included: Death of a Nation and Post-War Breakout, both of which are awesomely done with all kinds of strong imagery about the current state of the world. And then the Turncoat video features them playing in a studio, and includes the "Making of footage" which is really pretty damn fun to watch and it's painful to realize how long and tedious the process of making a video (or an album) can be. There are a few other bits listed as being on here (band interview, radio show, storyboards) which I must have missed in the menu, but all told there's an enormous amount of footage of here and it's well done. More than ever Anti-Flag are like a cross between the Bouncing Souls and Social Distortion with an incredible focus on smart politics aimed at making a young generation of pop-punkers more aware. And there are still a few old timers like me who are fans with respect for their methods. (-Chris)

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The march was incredible, with record numbers. The show of strength from women was inspiring. The signs, the dances, the cheers are all moving. This documentary has an emphasis on the radical cheer and noise bloc, and shows the cheers and drumming and chants about our bodies, our choice, and our rights. But the film makers talk to a number of people, many older women who have intense stories to tell: Women who had abortions 40 years ago and women who have worked in hospitals where women have come after illegal abortions. These women's experiences are moving and emotional, and honestly this brief film brought tears to my eyes several times, through the horrors some have experienced to the inspired passion of all who are standing up and saying "NO, we won't take it, we will fight back." This film is inspiring. Sad that with a million and a half people making a strong impact, the laws are still endangered and our rights are still being taken from us. So watch this film, get inspired, and don't stop fighting. (PMS Media/120 V/W, Cottage/Flagstaff AZ 86001/www.pmsmedia.org/poisonberry@pmsmedia.org) (-Chris)

THE RAMEN DAYS: BAY AREA HARDCORE DOCUMENTED

Burnt Ramen was an illegal venue in Oakland CA, that had regular shows for a few years and was a favorite among locals. This is an excellent video, which documents some of the bands that were involved regularly in the space and have kind of a family-like relationship, especially in the inter-relations and shared members. This is well done, uniquely filmed and does a great job of capturing the feeling of the place, the passion of those who frequented it, and also conveys some of the attitudes and ideals of the bands and the general Bay area HC scene in the recent years. There is a year of footage captured (though I don't see the actual year credited here). There is a chaotic feeling that reminds me of documented footage of Reegan's 80s era punk, and it's not so surprising that this is a generation of punk and hardcore that is post-bay area financial crash during the Bush years—rife material for poor, angry and pissed off punks. The "no rules" attitude of Burnt Ramen works because there does seem to be a general understanding of how things should be, and the internal problems are dealt with. There is a lot about this that reminds me of ABC NO RIO in the early 90s: the right time in the right place when things were chaotic and raw and amazing. When there are no rules, but self-rule and it's done as long as it can be gotten away with. Sadly Burnt Ramen's doors have closed cause the city wanted them to get legit, and they refused.

Though I never had the chance to go there, there is still a lot that is familiar for me in this video—in the faces, the crowds and the bands and the feeling. The filming and editing is well done. This is not the sort of video where you watch live sets through and through. The editing is fast and clipped, and you meet the bands and jump between interviews, live sets, collage clips, still footage and some tight editing that brings many different bands and individuals comments on the same topic. Especially clever is the cut and past collage of shared band members amongst the bands featured, which include Born/Dead, Brainoil, Exitwound, Blown to Bits, Dead Fall, Case of Emergency, Strung Up, Voetsek, Desolation, Scurvy Dogs and STFU.

This is so well done, it's up there among the best of documentaries on punk scenes. This is a special one cause it's specific to a time and a place and a fairly tight small group of people who had a great experience they'll never forget. But it goes beyond, and is universal. And for all of the chaos, drunkenness and the end of the venue, there is an amazing amount of positivity and confidence in the punks of the future. This is rad! (Six Weeks/225 Lincoln Ave/Cotati CA 94931) (-Chris)



DVD REVIEWS

A HUNDRED DOLLARS AND A T-SHIRT: A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT ZINES IN THE NORTHWEST US

If you've seen the zine The Stolen Sharpe Revolution, if you've been to the Portland Zine Symposium, if you do a zine yourself, or if you are interested in the cultural aspects of zine making or if any of these things strike you as remotely interesting, then this is a film that you must see. This is as tilted, a documentary about zines. It's about making zines with how-to-information, but it's much more about the phenomenon of zines and the passion behind them. Zines that are self-published, quirky and obsessed passionately with whatever they are about. Whether covering a topic or genre, or delving into the personal sphere, most people do zines because they can't help themselves. They might start a zine because it seems cool, but if they stick with it or get to be a zinester, there is a dedication and passion fueling the thankless work that goes into these self-published creations. This film does a really good job of covering the basics by interviewing a wide assortment of people involved in zine making in the

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about this need for a base of support in the general population. Or even in their own communities or scenes. Some anarchists or revolutionary-types will even stifle debate on the topic or refuse to even acknowledge its existence. It strikes me as pre-mature to call for revolutionary (dangerous) action when there is no support. the noble anarchist striking a blow against the vast machine of oppression has a certain romantic appeal, but, in real life, sacrificing one's life or relative freedom hardly seems beneficial. I think that anyone calling themselves a revolutionary in North America today needs a firm understanding of the political, social, and cultural mainstream, its history, and the varying levels of people's beliefs and realities. There needs to be an ongoing discussion in anarchist/revolutionary circles about the effectiveness of militant direct action versus creating and supporting the kind of communities we like to see. It is very easy to spout off some tough sounding shit, and very hard to make meaningful connections with other people especially with people who believe differently. Direct Action took the guerrilla road seriously, but with no roots in community, they died on the vine. It's pretty clear that anarchists don't have enough support and sympathy in the general population. We can't even keep people out of jail, so it strikes me as irresponsible to put up militant action with no possibility of backing and support.

Another interesting aspect of the book is the presence of punk rock. While two members of the group were punks, they weren't part of the initial core. For those three, whose coming of age pre-dated punk, the scene was seen as a rambunctious outlet for disaffected kids. They attended shows, but didn't look at punk rock as being a potential revolutionary movement.

There's this tension in punk rock overall, involving aims, ideas, hopes, and practice: is punk rock a revolutionary movement for liberation, nihilistic rage, a community of outsiders, a sub-culture, or a mix of everything? You know the answer! The criticism often floats around, coming from anarchists, other radicals



RAMBO
Chicago Fest 3/05

DVD REVIEWS

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everyday wants to do so, or be mad at people if they don't. It's important to remember that everyone has different ideas on things, and to not set up these expectations that there are norms, which must be followed, even though a lot of those standards are awesome, sometimes they limit people and push people away when that should not be the issue at hand. The group of people included seem to have pretty similar ideas on the totally DIY aspects of zines, so I just feel it important to note there are other points of view. That and that some of the filming angles are awkward and really don't change throughout the various interviews. But honestly, that is a small detail and it's more of an artistic aesthetic, which is not that important in getting the general points of view across, in which this film is very successful.

What is really cool about this is that while there are zine trends, there is also a zine or a zine maker who will break the mold. And while there are some accepted ways of doing things and plenty of guidelines that could be offered from collected years of experience by other self-publishers, ultimately the world of zines is an open and free one, to interpretation and expression. And you may likely be held accountable for what you write, but hopefully others will also respect you in the process. This focuses on the positive aspects of zine making with a pro-active and supportive message that is about encouraging people to create amazing zines. And whether you are a novice or have years of experience in publishing, whether you think you know it all or know that you know nothing at all, this is a film that will teach you something, and it's impossible not to be inspired by all that is offered here. And it's pretty cool to simply to see some of the faces behind those printed pages. In many ways this film was like going to the Portland Zine Symposium: you meet some old and new friends who's faces you've never seen or don't see often enough, you see a wide variety of self-publishing with a variety of techniques, styles and genres represented, you feel the passion of other people's passions, you take away some new ideas and inspiration, and acknowledge with some respect those people who are making the resources available to share their knowledge and in this case document our very unique community (or culture). I think it's rad. And I recommend this. (\$8 on DVD and \$10 on VHS/ Microcosm/ 5307 N Minnesota Ave/Portland OR 97217-4551/www.microcosmpublishing.com) (-Chris)

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ZINE REVIEWS

SPARE CHANGE #17 (1/2 size, 24 pages, \$2 PO Box 6023, Chattanooga, TN 37401) A tale of a restless youth spent in the middle of nowhere, Michigan, and finding, through a pen pal, the thriving punk scene going on in East Lansing. Written with a charming remembrance of the odd characters he met there, getting to see a bunch of really great bands, and the long drives back and forth to make curfew. It's an interesting tale written in an easy to read, conversational tone that I enjoy. (dug)

AGITATE #5 (c/o PO Box 202/ Shipley BD18 3WB UK / chrisagitate@yahoo.co.uk) This is a great anarcho-crust-punk newsletter that is at the heart of S&L completely. There's a brief intro, news about DIY labels and anarchist groups, reviews of zines and noise, a plug to the Brighton Anarchist Black Cross, and photos of See You In Hell, Avskum and Visions of War (and I must say it's ironic how the singers for the 3 bands look quite similar!). Anyway, this is basic and to the point and follows the format and formula that S&L did, and expanded on. It's 4 pages on one 11x17 page and though it's a quick read through, it is essential for all anarcho-crust-peace punks out there!! It's free, but if you order from the UK send an IRC or donation for postage. I have copies in the S&L distro & a SASE for a copy.

ALTERNA-TV #3 (\$2/Anna Key/Westmead, Green Street, Little Hadham/Nr Ware Herts/SG11 2EE/England/richard.westerman@talk21.com) On first glance and flip through, ALTERNA-TV seems like the riot girl zines of days gone by. Chock full of tiny little type, sex positive, lots of cut and paste/collage/ art work interspersed with politics and personal stories. The subtitle of this issue is 'explore beneath the surface' and that's definitely appropriate when you actually read some of the stories. I guess I'm torn on how to write my review. Here is my dilemma. I'm not sure if the author is a man or a woman or a transvestite/transgender. In the big picture it doesn't really matter, as I feel that people should identify themselves in what ever way makes them happy and feel good about themselves. In the small picture, as a woman, I'm a little weirded out by the 'Lizzie McGuire' poetry and masturbation tale for two reasons. First, if the author is a woman then I'm a little bummed out because there are so many REAL beautiful women in the world that you can lust after and fantasize about - why choose such a fake teenage hollywood barbie type? If the author is a man, then I'm a little creeped out by the thought of an adult man getting all hot and bothered by the 'sweet luscious tender sensuous beautiful teen delight' (author's description, not mine) of the girls on the 'Lizzie McGuire' show. I don't know, I guess I'm being judgmental. It seems like teenagers (even hollywood versions of them) have enough bullshit to wade through, with out adding adult predators waiting in the wings to objectify them sexually. Who knows, perhaps the author is a teenager! I'll just have to give 'em the benefit of the doubt, as I've never seen this zine before and have no knowledge of the author and their motives/ethos. Rest of the zine contains some potentially tasty vegan recipes, poetry, more sex stories, lots of golden showers/dirty panties, tons of somewhat crude drawings of semi-naked women and both genders in panties, info on the Domino's pizza/pro-life connection and a discussion on sexual self sufficiency. (-karoline)

AMERICA #13 (\$1/Travis/PO Box 13077/Gainesville FL 32604-1077) This was a bit of a surprise, cause I was expecting this to be mostly some kind of personal writing—like it starts out talking about riding a bike in Gainesville, and the sheer joy of it and why it makes life worth living. The surprise was that the bulk of the contents are 3 interviews, and/or, the interviews are amazing and really could be continued personal writing if that makes any sense at all. Travis talks to Sam McPheeters while on tour w/ the Wrangler Brutes. I haven't heard much from or about Mr. Sam in many years and I found his observations of life and things quite interesting and down to earth. Travis talks with Mary from Tree of Knowledge who was completely amazed to find out is as young as she is, especially considering that means that when she first got involved in zine stuff (TOK is a zine distro) that she was a young teen. Pretty fucking rad. And lastly Travis chats with Lance Hahn from J Church about the band, Austin, jazz records and life. These 3 interviews were great! And there is a bit more tucked into this small 1/4 sized gem with a spray painted cover on construction paper, which makes it all the more precious. Recommended!! (-Chris)

ARTCORE #22 (Spring 05) (c/o 1 Aberdulais Rd/Gabalfa Cardiff CF14 2PH UK/www.fourletterword.org.uk) What a great zine! This is one of the best and most consistent solid zines covering hardcore-punk. It's been going since 1986! Each issue these days, is full sized (8 1/2x11), with a glossy cover and

alchemy, sigils and the cultish lame they've achieved of late. The Vaultage section of this zine is the retrospectives of bands and people from the 80s and these are extremely well done, very informative and pretty downright amazing to read for anyone interested in history of punk or who's just plain obsessed with old-hardcore and punk. We've got write-ups on Gang Green, Pointed Sticks, and Social Unrest (who were one of my personal first favorite bands). The write up on Negazione takes them into the early 90s when they called it quits. Funny I always felt like when I saw them in 1990 I was coming at things so late in the game, now-a-days that is more like "right in the thick of things". And there is a really fucking interesting interview with Robbie from Posh Boy Records which not only talks about his label, but also gets into plenty of history and personal dealings amongst various sceners from the late 70s early 80s LA Punk scene. And last but not least, the name of the zine is not pointless, as there is always a featured artist and this time it's Johnny X from Sticks and Stones and Bouncing Souls single fame, who's name is actually Michael Cavallaro and he is a comic artist who has launched his own comic called 66 Thousand Miles per Hour, which is available through Chunkaah. A fucking solid and excellent issue, which has got me feeling all inspired and digging through my old records. (-Chris)

AT BOTH ENDS #5 (fall 04) (\$1 + postage) ABEF/ #207-555 East 6th Ave / Vancouver BC V5T 1K9 (Canada) This is a really good hardcore fanzine. It's printed on newsprint and is of a good size (70+ pages). It follows a "standard" music zine format with columns, band interviews and reviews and there are tons of great (motion blur) photos. The coverage is hardcore, with a tendency in the SXE hardcore direction. What I really like about this is that this is a smart zine, with good positive thoughtful intentions behind it, plus a lot of passion. The interviews are good and long. They are interesting to read even if you know

after 25 years), talks about his new bike and driving a new van while filling in on another's route, and mentions or reviews many records and DVDs. I'd like some actual descriptions of the zines you mention! If I were you, punk, I might send five bucks or something and ask Alex for a few issues to see what's what, right? (jersey)

BEHIND THE TIMES #4 (Jan 05) (\$2ppd USCar/BTV/ 191 Benjamin St/Schenectady NY 12303) This is a great hardcore-punk focused zine. It's mostly



Riistetyl
Roboto, Pittsburgh 3/05

interviews, but the interviews are with interesting bands and they are well done and I wanted to read them and got something out of them, which unfortunately doesn't happen often enough these days. The bands interviewed are John Brown's Army (JBA from Albany) who are awesome and I haven't heard or seen near enough about, so it was cool to read about new developments with this band, World Burns To Death - of whom I know plenty, but it's still interesting to read Jack's words and how he answers questions with quotes and has no faith whatsoever in people or government; Plan of Attack are the band here I don't know; and Fucked Up who I really have no interest in, but are weird and obscure and I find myself interested in reading interviews to see what all the hype is about - it's about them being weird I think. There's a great write up on the history of Japanese HC band Deathside, which includes the influences this band has had on current bands as well as chronicles Forward and Paintbox, and the Burning Spirits shows which all followed in the wake of DS and this is an article that I will probably never forget reading. There are a lot of live photos, and the photos and reproduction are good. There are also reviews mostly of music and a few zines. The focus is hardcore, but not so much the XXX or mosh hardcore, more the hardcore with some crusty punk undertones. Right up my alley—great zine! (-Chris)

BLACK LUNG 13 (Alex Simon/57 Avenue du General Morand/91600 Savigny/Orge/France/ratcharge@yahoo.fr) This is the kind of great looking zine that if I saw it anywhere I'd pick it up, I'd flip through it, be stoked, and then realize it's all in French. I got this cause Alex interviewed me about Slug & Lettuce. There's lots of other great stuff in here too. There's an interview w/Gasmask Terror (from France), No Hope for the Kids (from Denmark), Lebenden Toten (from Portland, OR), plus reviews and columns. And I have to once again emphasize how good this looks. Nice layouts, great artwork and graphics, it's all put together in an eye-catching way that totally screams anarcho-peace punk, which in turns appeals to me in a big way. This is a really great issue, fantastically done, and highly recommended if you read French. And perhaps even if you don't. (-Chris)

BLACK MAPS #3 (\$2/ Stevie Black Maps/PO Box 34584/Philadelphia, PA 19101/mayallhavepeace@hotmail.com) Excellent personal zine written about the rare moments of transition/inspiration disorientation that life bestows on us. Mostly set in the East Bay and environs, with a move to Michigan (Ann Arbor/Detroit) Steve takes the reader on a journey of the mind through climbs and hitchhiking on Mt. Tamalpais, a last minute camping trip to the Russian River, the U.C. Berkeley experience, returning from Cuba, witnessing the outside world through a pane of glass, accidents, the WTO battle for Seattle, man vs. machine, and the brief glimpse of widespread power

BORN 20 YEARS TOO LATE #3 (\$1 US and Canada, \$1.50 international/ trades welcome / 92 Riel blv Gatineau(Hull), Quebec J8Y 5Y2 Canada/ theamebix@yahoo.com) I love the name of this zine. For a younger punk into 80s era crust it's cool, and gets a laugh as well. Although it's not all worship of the past as you might guess. There are rather current interviews with Driller Killer (metal rockers from Sweden), Laukaus (Japanese punks who sing in Finnish), Cluster Bomb Unit (from Germany), an old reprint of a Partisans interview from the 80s, and a reprint of an interview w/the Amebix from a Norwegian metal mag from 1986, which I had never seen before. There are also a number of reviews (current), and tons of reprinted photos mostly of old anarchist/crust punks (unfortunately when and where they came from is not noted - so you've got DIRT from the 80s and Final Warning from the 90s mixed together with Court Martial and ENT). There's a list of anti-animal testing products and contacts for recommended zines and political groups. I like this zine. And I love that they say it's "more crust than Deviated Instinct ever were." That is quite a statement. Cool zine. (-Chris)

BOXCUTTER #7 (\$1 or trade) Tomas/ 1636 Fairview Street/ Berkeley, CA 94703/boxcutter@lists.risup.net) Subtitled 'New Beginnings', this little pocket sized zine is a nice treat. I love the cover... a flower made out of box knives. A collective effort, the reader will journey through depression and meds, breaking up with a long time partner, how to deal with the dis information of the American propaganda machine and raising kids, the spectacle of American society, the denial of white privilege, acceptance to U.C. Berkeley and the strange 'utopia' that it represents. Sprinkle in a little poetry and a recipe for a lovely day and we can call it a night. A nice read, (albeit a little short) and I've gotta say that it made me oh-so homesick for the East Bay. (-karoline)

BRISK WALK #3 (postage \$5/ trade/ Matt Underfoot/ 5700 N. Tamiami Trail/ PO Box 402/Sarasota, FL 34243) Matt is a Miami native and a student at the Sarasota alternative/Anarchy college. Brisk walk is a mostly Florida oriented zine with interviews with the Ground Xero record store owner and the writer of the zine America? Which is Gainesville based. There is also some aftermath of the election writing and a piece of youth and crime being acquainted. My favorite part of this is when he mentions meeting my friend Nails, it's pretty hilarious. (European)

BURNING KIDZ #3 (\$3/Humboldt 627 C.P. 1414/Capital Federal/Argentina/burningkidz@hotmail.com) Punk zine de la Argentina. Yo hablo Espanol un poquito, pero no puedo leerlo. BK seems punk and enthusiastic and has



Riistetyl
Chicago Fest 3/05

nothing of the bands and you will inevitably come away with something to think of and likely some interest in seeking out the music because there are a lot of ideas and as I said, passion and dedication involved here, which is not only cool, but very inspiring to see. Some of the bands interviewed are Converge, Go It Alone, Second Ago/The Ago, The Miracle Mile, A18 and F from Flex Your Head.



issue is 'explore beneath the surface' and that's definitely appropriate when you actually read some of the stories. I guess I'm torn on how to write my review. Here is my dilemma. I'm not sure if the author is a man or a woman or a transvestite/transgender. In the big picture it doesn't really matter, as I feel that people should identify themselves in what ever way makes them happy and feel good about themselves. In the small picture, as a woman, I'm a little weirded out by the 'Lizzie McGuire' poetry and masturbation tale for two reasons. First, if the author is a woman then I'm a little bummed out because there are so many REAL beautiful women in the world that you can lust after and fantasize about - why choose such a fake teenage hollywood barbie type? If the author is a man, then I'm a little creeped out by the thought of an adult man getting all hot and bothered by the 'sweet luscious tender sensuous beautiful teen delight' (author's description, not mine) of the girls on the 'Lizzie McGuire' show. I don't know, I guess I'm being judgmental. It seems like teenagers (even hollywood versions of them) have enough bullshit to wade through, without adding adult predators waiting in the wings to objectify them sexually. Who knows, perhaps the author is a teenager! I'll just have to give 'em the benefit of the doubt, as I've never seen this zine before and have no knowledge of the author and their motives/ethos. Rest of the zine contains some potentially tasty vegan recipes, poetry, more sex stories, lots if golden showers/dirty panties, tons of somewhat crude drawings of semi-naked women and both gender in panties, info on the Domino's pizza/pro-life connection and a discussion on sexual self sufficiency. (-karoline)

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various scensers from the late 70s/early 80s LA Punk scene. And last but not least, the name of the zine is not pointless, as there is always a featured artist and this time it's Johnny X from Sticks and Stones and Bouncing Souls single fame, who's name is actually Michael Cavallaro and he is a comic artist who has launched his own comic called 66 Thousand Miles per Hour, which is available through Chunkaah.

A fucking solid and excellent issue, which has got me feeling all inspired and digging through my old records. (-Chris)

AT BOTH ENDS #5 (fall 04) (\$1+postage) ABEF/ #207-555 East 6th Ave/Vancouver BC V5T 1K9 Canada) This is a really good hardcore fanzine. It's printed on newsprint and is of a good size (70+ pages). It follows a "standard" music zine format with columns, band interviews and reviews and there are tons of great (motion blur) photos. The coverage is hardcore, with a tendency in the SXE hardcore direction. What I really like about this is that this is a smart zine, with good positive thoughtful intentions behind it, plus a lot of passion. The interviews are good and long. They are interesting to read even if you know

interviews, but the interviews are with interesting bands and they are well done and I wanted to read them and got something out of them, which unfortunately doesn't happen often enough these days. The bands int'ed are John Brown's Army (JBA from Albany) who are awesome and I haven't heard or seen near enough about, so it was cool to read about new developments with this band. World Burns To Death - of whom I know plenty, but it's still interesting to read Jack's words and how he answers questions with quotes and has no faith whatsoever in people or government; Plan of Attack are the band here I don't know; and Fucked Up who I really have no interest in, but are weird and obscure and I find myself interested in reading interviews to see what all the hype is about - it's about them being weird I think. There's a great write up on the history of Japanese HC band Deathside, which includes the influences this band has had on current bands as well as chronicles Forward and Paintbox, and the Burning Sprits shows which all followed in the wake of DS and this is an article that I will probably never forget reading. There are a lot of live photos, and the photos and reproduction are good. There are also reviews mostly of music and a few zines. The focus is hardcore, but not so much the XXX or mosh hardcore, more the hardcore with some crusty punk undertones. Right up my alley—great zine! (-Chris)

1

BRISK WALK #3 (postage \$1) trade/Matt Underfoot/ 5700 N. Tamiami Trail PO Box 402/Sarasota, FL 34243) Matt is a Miami native and a student at the Sarasota alternative/Anarchy college. Brisk walk is a mostly Florida oriented zine with interviews with the Ground Zero record store owner and the writer of the zine America? Which is in Gainesville based. There is also some aftermath of the election writing and a piece of youth and crime being acquainted. My favorite part of this is when he mentions meeting my friend Nails, it's pretty hilarious. (-karoline)

BURNING KID #3 (\$3) Humboldt 627 C.P. 1414/Capital Federal/Argentina/burningkidz@hotmail.com Punk zine de la Argentina. Yo hablo Espanol un poquito, pero no puedo leerlo. BK seems punk and enthusiastic and has



nothing of the bands and you will inevitably come away with something to think of and likely some interest in seeking out the music because there are a lot of ideas and as I said, passion and dedication involved here, which is not only cool, but very inspiring to see. Some of the bands interviewed are Converge, Go It Alone, Second Age/The Age, The Miracle Mile, A18 and Eric from Flex Your Head radio. This zine reminds me of some of the best of the genre in the past, and those who are into hardcore and music zines could do with checking this out and hoping this kind of quality standard lasts.

BARBIE'S DEAD #16 (50p) Woodhouse/The Square/Gunnislake/Cornwall/PL18 9BW/UK) Alex is an older post worker and a punk who does a zine. In general, I like this zine, and in this issue he talks about anti-immigrant sentiment, some music fests he attended this last summer (& seeing the Damned again,

environs, with a move to Michigan (Ann Arbor/Detroit) Steve takes the reader on a journey of the mind through climbs and hitchhiking on Mt. Tamalpais, a last minute camping trip to the Russian River, the U.C. Berkeley experience, returning from Cuba, witnessing the outside world through a pane of glass, accidents, the WTO battle for Seattle, man vs. machine, and the brief glee of widespread power outages. All of these scenes are tied together by the underlying theme of vertigo Vertigo as an existential idea - not that which is caused by fear of high places. Excellent, descriptive writing that really puts you in the story...sharing the highs and lows of everyday living and mental wrestling with existence itself. Great packaging (the in-flight airline emergency landing card as a little display for the zine itself), awesome typewritten cut and paste layout, just a true gem of heart and soul on the page. Necessary (-karoline)

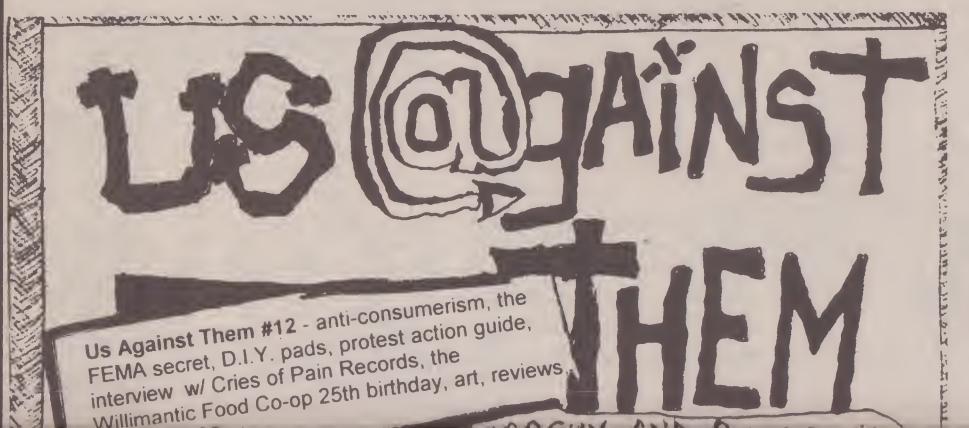
I've got say, it made me go to Gainsville last last day. (-karoline)

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tinued personal writing if that makes any sense at all. Travis talks to Sam McPheeeter while on tour w/the Wrangler Brutes. I haven't heard much from or about Mr. Sam in many years and I found his observations of life and things quite interesting and down to earth. Travis talks with Mary from Tree of Knowledge who I was completely amazed to find out is as young as she is, especially considering that means that when she first got involved in zine stuff (TOK is a zine distro) that she was a young teen. Pretty fucking rad. And lastly Travis chats with Lance Hahn from J Church about the band, Austin, jazz records and life. These 3 interviews were great! And there is a bit more tucked into this small 1/4 sized gem with a spray painted cover on construction paper, which makes it all the more precious. Recommended!! (-Chris)

ARTCORE #22 (Spring 05) (c/o 1 Aberdulais Rd/Gabalfa Cardiff/CF14 2PH UK/www.fourletterword.org.uk) What a great zine! This is one of the best and most consistent solid zines covering hardcore-punk. It's been going since 1986! Each issue these days, is full sized (8 1/2 x 11), with a glossy cover and offset printed pages with nice graphic layouts and tiny very legible text. The focus is on old-school punk and hardcore, both of today and yesterday. The first chunk of this zine is interviews with current bands. We've got one w/the reformed and active again Adolescents, plus Pilager, The Dauntless Elite, Signal Lost, a very interesting chat with Marc from Vitamin X (about old school hardcore roots and how that translates today into sXe and V.X.), and a somewhat confrontational and very interesting interview w/Fucked Up - about



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Savigny/Orge/France/ratcharge@yahoo.fr) This is the kind of great looking zine that if I saw it anywhere I'd pick it up, I'd flip through it, be stoked, and then realize it's all in French. I got this cause Alex interviewed me about Slug & Lettuce. There's lots of other great stuff in here too. There's an interview with Gasmask Terror (from France), No Hope for the Kids (from Denmark), Lebenden Toten (from Portland, OR), plus reviews and columns. And I have to once again emphasize how good this looks. Nice layouts, great artwork and graphics, it's all put together in an eye-catching way that totally screams anarcho-peace punk, which in turns appeals to me in a big way. This is a really great issue, fantastically done, and highly recommended if you read French. And perhaps even if you don't. (-Chris)

BLACK MAPS #3 (\$2/ Stevie Black Maps/ PO Box 34584/ Philadelphia, PA 19101/ mayalhavpeace@hotmail.com) > Excellent personal zine written about the rare moments of transition/inspiration/disorientation that life bestows on us. Mostly set in the East Bay and

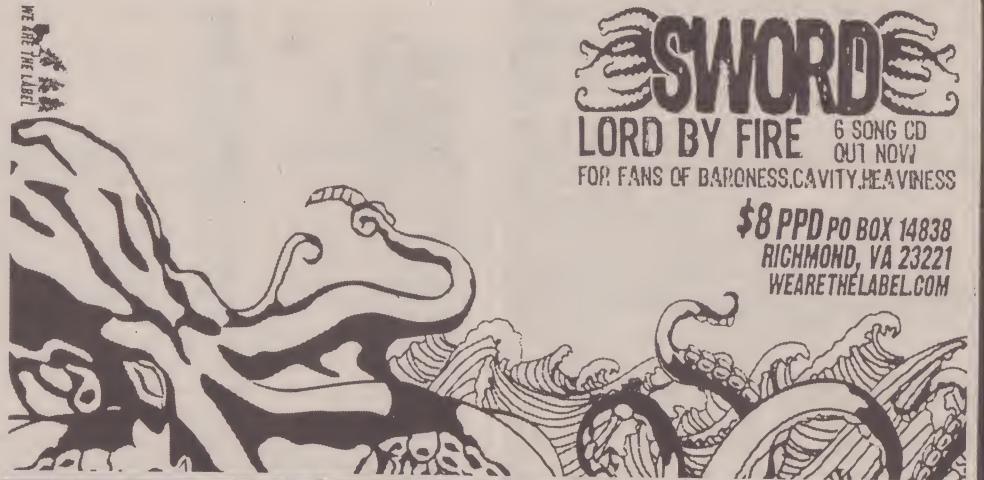
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columns, interviews (with the Jacqueline Line Trash, The Tormentos, Marco of The Butchers Orchestra, and At Edge of a straightedge label), music and zine reviews and it comes with a CD comp of local bands. This ranges from surf to Black Flag-esque punk. Isabel and Matto have what looks like a good punk zine, so check it out. (jersey)

CARTOON CRAZE #1 (6 3/4 x 5, 12 pages, 50 cents, Tex Vehis/5756 Village Way/Ogden, UT 84403) You know those cheap-ass cartoon collections that you can find at every department store, pharmacy, and truck stop for a buck or two? With titles like "Krazy Kartunes" of "Wacky Toon Jubilee." Well, Tex LOVES these collections. This zine is a tribute to them. The zine has really cool covers, hand drawn with crayon right on pages torn from cheap comic books. (Mine is Richie Rich!) There are several illustrations accompanying the humorous writing. I, too, dig the old cartoons... Befo, the human Tom & Jerry team, funny stuff. If you enjoy these old cartoons, you need to order this zine. I mean it. (dug)

CITIZINE-PUNK ROCK COMMENTARY #6 (\$3.25/Thom White/citizenzine.com) This is a print companion to an online zine which has been around for a while. This issue is full of reviews, political commentary (a great deal of which is pre-election anti Bush Pieces), interviews and more. This zine has a intense focus on old school punk and hardcore. The two interviews in this zine are with Brian Baker and John Doe. Both were super interesting and very long and they deal with the past, present, and future of every aspect of each's career. The interviewer even asked Brian Baker about Junkyard which I find hilarious. The John Doe interview also has some really interesting insight not only on himself but other people like Darby Crash and Elliot Smith. If you are interested in People from the US's punk beginnings this is worth reading.

CITIZINE-PUNK ROCK COMMENTARY #7 This

is the exact same format as the #6 but it also includes a pretty interesting punk news section and all of the articles are not about the election. There are a ton of reviews an entire section of which is dedicated to famous rock bands from the 90's new records which is humorous. But again in this issue the high point is the interviews with old punk rockers like John Denney from the Weirdos, Joey Keithly Kira Roessler who was Black Flag records. I really found her interview interesting for all it's perspective on the rest of the band and her place in all the chaos that was Black Flag. (european) **ISSUE #8** just arrived. Features an interview with Spit Stix the drummer and Derf Scratch original bassist of Fear. Plus an intv. w/ Kira Roessler from Black Flag. Plus reviews, news and other stuff.

COFFEE #1 (1/2 size, 68 pages, cost? Dittman, PO Box 1082/Franklin, PA 16323) This gets two big thumbs up. Dug seal of approval. Written by Michael Dittman with illustrations by Jon Armstrong, this is a comic rendition of a short story dealing with lack of ambition and troubles in love. No price is listed and there was not a letter included, so write Michael at simpub@hotmail.com for ordering information. Let that be a lesson to all you zinesters out there, include your info when sending a zine in for review. Look, I could have been writing how awesome this comic is, (and it is) but I have to remind people to include a cost for ease in ordering! In short: engaging story, cleverly written, beautifully illustrated. (dug)

CRANIAL STRETCH #3 (free, \$1 or trade/915E. Stockbridge #3/Kalamazoo, MI 49011) Punk cutup with the requisite humor, band interviews, complaints about shit-takin' in the scene, randomness (Emilio Estevez a forgotten punk?), and shoplifting (art supplies). Interviews with Vivisuck and the Pubes. I can't fault the enthusiasm in this short read or the author's wish to support the scene, but I prefer zines with a little more heft. (jersey)

CURRICULUM VITAE Winter 2003 (6 3/4 x 4 1/4, \$2- PO Box 1082, Franklin, PA 16323) This is a pretty great literary zine! There are four short stories packed in this odd sized package of writing. The fiction within walks the fine

cities—focused on and distributed mostly in the upper Midwest. I found some of it hard to get into reading like about the to vote or not to vote debate (anarchists are staunchly opposed to voting), there are letters, a report about an FBI investigation into Midwest anarchists, and an uprising of white power fascists in the Midwest (scary!) There's a page that includes info on seed saving, distraught your zine and DIY acne prevention. There's also quite a ton of reviews of zines, books and music (which take on a punk and political slant which is great). All rounded out this is a great publication that will only be able to publish 2x a year in the future due to financial crisis. Support them distro some copies or send a donation. This is kinda like a Midwest slingshot with more anarchist and less hippie focus. (-Chris)

DO OR DIE #10 [reprint] (\$2/Overground Distro/ PO Box 1661/ Pensacola, FL 32591 / www.overground.info) This is a hefty reprint of the UK's important radical eco journal. I believe it no longer exists. This is the Earth First! Journal on steroids, covering "social revolution and ecological defense" from all points theoretical, practical, direct action, and more. There's so much in this

I won't list contents—this is a reprint after all—but you probably know if you're interested. (jersey)

DON'T HAVE A COW #3 (donation/\$4/ppd Car/Mex/ \$5 world/ John Johnson/ PO Box 8145/ Reno NV 89507) Excellent, excellent, excellent! This is a vegan cookzine, which goes well beyond the recipes. This issue will be of particular interest and use to those who are either early in the stages of being interested in veganism, or have some sort of reservations, or live or spend time in mixed company of vegetarians and meat eaters. There are many pages of recipes that all require simple and basic ingredients, yet make hearty meals. There's also tons of tid bits and information throughout this zine. There are articles included about cows and artificial insemination, and one contrary to the myth that Hitler was a vegetarian. There's advice and experiential info on

what to do when dining out in the company of meat eaters, or in non-vegetarian restaurants. There's also some suggestions on how to cope if you are, perhaps live with a meat eater and you're vegetarian. There is a correspondence section, which is pretty interesting and offers some good views, facts and tidbits, plus a bit of drama. And what will be really useful to many is the list of ingredients that are good to start a basic vegetarian pantry, a vegan guide to mainstream grocery stores, as well as recipes that are super fast and simple to make. Great information here to round out this cookzine. It sells for \$3.50 in store, so send an equivalent donation - it's worth it. (-Chris)

DWELLING PORTABLY OR SHARED, MOBILE, IMPROVISED UNDERGROUND, HIDDEN, FLOATING April 2005 (\$1/PO Box 190-d/Philmont OH 43730) Freight trains, river boating and RV's are all ways I have or want to travel some day and this issue is full of tips and stories about each mode. I love how the editors squeeze as much info as possible in each issue. There is information on edible mushrooms, eating acorns and so many other things. There is stuff about Mexican health care and transportation. There is so much in here it's possible to list all of it but I found the most interesting things to be the experiences of living on house boats on rivers and the stories of a "jungle" getting busted by the police in Seattle and the anti government rant the followed. I recommend this to anyone interested in alternatives modes of travel. (european)

EXTERMINATING ANGEL (\$3/ PO box 769/ Redding CT 06899/ weissman24.tripod.com/dhruuwa or weissman24@gmail.com) This is a big zine that focuses are art and text as an artistic statement. The drawings are reproductions are of pencil or charcoal type drawings. The text takes on a poetic statement style, which isn't the sort to hit you over the head, but rather that to quietly ponder. Each page, or rather spread is like a poster, which makes for a pretty cool format. It's not easy to sum up, but if you're into art and posters and the juxtaposition of art with text, then check this out. (-Chris)

color, two-page slice of Neil Weiner's life after being attacked by an inmate. Reb has a nice introduction giving a little of his history and talking about how important zines are for the connections we make. There's writing expressing no surprise about Abu Ghraib and how torture happens in U.S. prisons, esp. with lack of (proper) medical treatment. Reb visits zine events and has some complaints and praises for various people and groups. There's a multi-page rant on the "uber-PC" prudes who gave his bro's zines reviews he didn't like. This was just too exaggerated to take seriously. Overall, this is mostly good. (jersey)

FORIDIDIOT #2 (\$1/ppd US/\$2/2ppd world or trade/Zach Howard/5726 Sussex Ct/Troy MI 48098/chaosonmusicca@gmail.com) This has an interview with Beyond Description (pretty basic), a few reviews, and a write up on Damnable Excite Zombies! It's an 8 page punkzine, which this time around is a focus on Japanese HC. It looks good—nice layouts and such, yet the reality is that the info could probably be contained in half the pages cause this takes just minutes to read. If there were more of it, this would be an even better zine. (-Chris)

GUTTER FLOWER #3 (\$1.20 or stamp equivalent or trade/PO Box 50117/Bakersfield, CA 93385) Melissa's culpnastie zine opens with a spring-coming, garden affirming, I'm getting married next Halloween intro. She re-prints a self-defense guide that was in Heartattack, as well as a calzone recipe from the wood of mouse. She reflects on the death of her Uncle Dave and on the shit surrounding her children's father coming back into their lives and leaving again. Short, but has a good feel to it.

(jersey)
HERE TO STAY HERE TO FIGHT Vol 2 #3 (Jan. 05) (RASH NYC/PO Box 364/ Canal St. Station/NY NY 10013-0364/djhagler@hotmail.com) Did you know that there were anarchist skinheads? This is the Red Anarchist Skin Heads, which takes a strong anti-fascist approach. This issue has some news and bits, a history of the evolution of skinhead music, some band news and info of relevance, particularly from Insurgence Records. Included are some reviews, some listings of anti-racist skin zines, a recommended primer reading list, contacts for useful left groups and publications, and an extensive Billy Bragg book review. If like me, you shy away from the skinhead world, this is at least a very positive eye opener to a whole other side of things that I think often goes unnoticed, which therefore makes this refreshing. They've been at it for years too, and know what the hell they're talking about. (-Chris)

IDEAS IN PICTURES #4 (\$3 or \$2 + 2 stamps/ Colin Matthes/ PO Box 210214/ Milwaukee WI 53203 / ideasinpictures@yahoo.com) This is one of the best zines I've seen in terms of conveying an emotional impact on the reasons why the meat industry is fucked up - not just in treatment of animals but also to the human workers. This issue takes a slight departure from a singular topic, while sticking to those topics at the same time. Colin draws in a scratchy inkwell style. He's got drawings of people, sometimes with statements or words. Then there is a panel about the strike at the Tyson plant in his hometown, and how he supported it until the union workers were insulting the skabs with racial slurs. He continues to cover the strike workers and their conditions, while also depicting the conditions of the chickens. This is intense, but it's conveyed in a subtle way at the same time with a visual comic drawing and text format. This issue also has a

lot of columns, DIY files on things safety tips, stencil making, recycling tips, an interview with CH TM, and a scene report from Mexicali (at the top of the Baja peninsula), plus reviews and some political reports. As well as plugs for distros and other DIY projects they support. All around, this is a great zine, very DIY punk and in line with the spirit of S&L. If you read Spanish - def. Check this out. Send some donation money too. Oh and get in touch w/ them if you are interested in touring Mexico, even if you are not in a band, you can still go on one of the tours. (-Chris)

JULS GENERIC #2 "GETTING THE FUCK OUTTA DODGE" (1/6 size, 12 pages, \$1 or stamp in Canada. Juls Generic, 1342 E Georgia, Vancouver, BC, V5L 2A8, Canada) "Personal narrative on leaving Vancouver." That's the subtitle of this, another enjoyable zine from Juls Generic. She writes from an emotional standpoint that we can all understand, and wonder "why didn't I ever think of it in exactly those words before?" The way she delicately weaves between straight storytelling while linking together seemingly random langents is remarkable because it's done so effortlessly. (dug) **JULS GENERIC #4** (1/4 size, 10 pages, \$1 or stamp in Canada. address above) This is a really well-written and well put together zine dealing with death in some of its various forms. She takes three disparate events and winds them altogether with remarkable effectiveness. There are no graphics or illustrations, just a typewritten zine that succeeds in a literary way. Very personal, self-revealing writing, so if you're squeamish about knowing the sordid details of a strangers life, beware. If that's exactly what you're looking for, then you are in luck, because this is one of the better per-zines I've seen. (dug) **JULS GENERIC #5 "ALF IT UP!"** (1/8 size, 64 pages, \$4, address above) Ah, glorious storytelling of punk rock shows, punk rock love, and life in a punk rock house I dig it. With several asides and commentaries on Canadian separatist movements, also amusing and confrontational. The stories are spiced with lots of drinking, drug use, and sex. I like this zine. And it comes with a tape of many of the bands mentioned in the pages of the zine, most of which are pretty dam good, just a couple others pretty mediocre, but the tape really adds to the reading and understanding of the story. You get more of a feel of the times discussed.

A zine with a soundtrack provided for your amusement and delight, what a great ideal (dug) **KEEP LOVING KEEP FIGHTING #4** (\$2/2ppd/ Hope/1324 Marigny/New Orleans LA 70117) This is an autumn zine. It's very emotional and full of shedding leaves and transition and sadness. It's also about ghosts and the ways in which your past is part of you and takes you to your future. Hope writes about her grandmother dying of throat cancer and 3 generations of hardcore smokers in her family. She writes about her love of the Northeast in fall and how hard that is to translate into a New Orleans fall that feels like a languid summer. Hope is also coming to terms with sadness and depression, gard. Whether the sadness is chemical or based on the lost of a relationship, or the reference to a horrible accident, there is a poetic style to some of the writing and that emotive vagueness that is like a love letter written to someone other than you who is reading it. Shelley has a contribution, which I really loved, which also touches on the ghosts and past to future of life. About longing to be something, and then realizing that the path you've taken has led you where you wanted but never quite thought you'd be. This nice little zine, does take a turn for the

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It no longer exists. This is the Earth First! Journal on steroids, covering "social revolution and ecological defense" from all points theoretical, practical, direct action, and more. There's so much in this I won't list contents—this is a reprint after all—but you probably know you're interested. (jersey)

DON'T HAVE A COW #3

(donation/\$4 ppd CanMex/ \$5 world/ John Johnson/ PO Box 8145/ Reno NV 89507) Excellent, excellent, excellent! This is a vegan cookzine, which goes well beyond the recipes. This issue will be of par-

ticular interest and use to those who are either early in the stages of being interested in veganism, or have some sort of reservations, or live or spend time in mixed company of vegetarians and meat eaters. There are many pages of recipes that all require simple and basic ingredients, yet make hearty meals. There's also tons of tid bits and information throughout this zine. There are articles included about cows and artificial insemination, and one contrary to the myth that Hitler was a vegetarian. There's advice and experiential info on

what to do when dining out in the company of meat eaters, or in non-vegetarian restaurants. There's also some suggestions on how to cope if you may, or perhaps live with a meat eater and you're vegetarian. There is a correspondence section, which is pretty interesting and offers some good views, tidbits, plus a bit of drama. And what will be really useful to many is the list of ingredients that are good to start a basic vegetarian pantry, a vegan guide to mainstream grocery stores, as well as recipes that are super fast and simple to make. Great information here to round out this cookzine. It sells for \$3.50 in store, so send an equivalent donation - it's worth it. (-Chris)

DWELLING PORTABLY OR SHARED, MOBILE, IMPROVISED UNDERGROUND.

HIDDEN, FLOATING April 2005 (\$1/PO Box 190-d/Philmouth OR 97370) Freight trains, river boating and RV's are all ways I have or want to travel some day and this issue is full of tips and stories about each mode. I love how the editors squeeze as much info as possible in each issue. There is information on edible mushrooms, eating accoms and so many other things. There is stuff about Mexican health care and transportation. There is so much in here it's possible to list all of it but I found the most interesting things to be the experiences of living on house boats on rivers and the stories of a "jungle" getting busted by the police in Seattle and the anti government rant the followed. I recommend this to anyone interested in alternatives modes of travel. (european)

EXTERMINATING ANGEL (\$3/ PO box 769/ Redding CT 06896/ weissman24.tripod.com/dhruua or weissman42@gmail.com) This is a big zine that focuses are art and text as an artistic statement. The drawings are reproductions are of pencil or charcoal type drawings. The text takes on a poetic statement style, which isn't the sort to hit you over the head, but rather that to quietly ponder. Each page, or rather spread is like a poster, which makes for a pretty cool format. It's not easy to sum up, but if you're into art and posters and the juxtaposition of art with text, then check this out. (-Chris)

FANORAMA #27.5 LEFT BACK #4.5 (\$8 + \$2 postage, trade, stamps, free to prisoners/ Fanorama Society/ 109 Arnold, Avenue/ Cranston, RI 02905 / fanorama@aol.com) This is a full-size, 66 page zine that has some full color pages if you're shocked at the price. If a got it though, why not help keep it free for prisoners? In Left Back, Chadd writes ably about life in prison: struggles with the administration over zines and supposed "gang" affiliation, and being thrown in the hole (solitary). If you want a glimpse of what it can be like in prison, check this out and I recommend you do. The Fanorama side is large and contains a full-

is a focus on Japanese HC. It looks good-nice layouts and such, yet the reality is that the info could probably be contained in half the pages cause this takes just minutes to read. If there were more of it, this would be an even better zine. (-Chris)

GUTTER FLOWER #3 (\$1.20 or stamp equivalent or trade/PO Box 50117/Bakersfield, CA 93385) Melissa's cutpaste zine opens with a spring-coming, garden affirming, I'm getting married next Halloween intro. She re-prints a self-defense guide that was in Heartattack, as well as a calzone recipe from the wood of moose. She reflects on the death of her Uncle Dave and on the shit surrounding her children's father coming back into their lives and leaving again. Short, but has a good feel to it. (jersey)

HERE TO STAY HERE TO FIGHT Vol 2 #3 (Jan. 05) (RASH NYC/PO Box 364/ Canal St. Station/ NY NY 10013-0364/djhagler@hotmail.com) Did you know that there were anarchist skinheads? This is the Red Anarchist Skin Heads, which takes a strong Anti-fascist approach. This issue has some news and bits, a history of the evolution of skinhead music, some band news and info of relevance, particularly from Insurgence Records. Included are some reviews, some listings of anti-racist skin zines, a recommended primer reading list, contacts for useful/let groups and publications, and an extensive Billy Bragg book review. If like me, you shy away from the skinhead world, this is at least a very positive eye opener to a whole other side of things that I think often goes unnoticed, which therefore makes this refreshing. They've been at it for years too, and know what the hell they're talking about. (-Chris)

IDEAS IN PICTURES #4 (\$3 or \$2 + 2 stamps/ Colin Matthes/ PO Box 210214/ Milwaukee WI 53203 / ideasinpicture@yahoo.com) This

is one of the best zines I've seen in terms of conveying an emotional impact on the reasons why the meat industry is fucked up - not just in treatment of animals but also to the human workers. This issue takes a slight departure from a singular topic, while sticking to those topics at the same time. Colin draws in a scratchy inkwell style. He's got drawings of people, sometimes with statements or words. Then there is a panel about the strike at the Tyson plant in his hometown, and how he supported it until the union workers were insulting the skabs with racial slurs. He continues to cover the strike workers and their conditions, while also depicting the conditions of the chickens. This is intense, but it's conveyed in a subtle way at the same time with a visual comic drawing and text format. This issue also has a screenprinted cover, which is a nice touch. (-Chris)

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There are some other very interesting articles as well that aren't about the election like one about the drug provision that prevents students from getting financial aid if they have ever been convicted of a drug offense and another about the ten worst animal abusers. There are also tons of reviews and more in here. This is a good resource for the left. (european) Issue #55 is the latest to arrive. This zine comes and reaching out in that re-chemical or based on the lost of a relationship, or the reference to a horrible accident, there is a poetic style to some of the writing and that emotive vagueness that is like a love letter written to someone other than you who is reading it. Shelley has a contribution, which I really loved, which also touches on the ghosts and past to future of life. About longing to be something, and then realizing that the path you've taken has led you where you wanted but never quite thought you'd be. This nice little zine, does take a turn for the optimistic side by the end and has a lighthearted, driving off into the sunset of your life ending. It's got a mono and ghost printed cover and an artistic assembly of the paper, which is as endearing as the writing. (-Chris)

KER-BLOOM #51 (1/4 size, 12 pages, \$2 each/ Arthouse/ PO Box 3525/ Oakland, CA 94609) First, this is one good-looking zine. Cardstock covers and letterpress printed in three colors. It's very aesthetically appealing. The six pages of text, however, left me scratching my head and wondering what the

JULS GENERIC #2 "GETTING THE FUCK OUTTA DODGE" (1/6 size, 12 pages, \$1 or stamp in Canada. Juls Generic, 1342 E Georgia, Vancouver, BC, V5L 2B8, Canada) "Personal narrative on leaving Vancouver." That's the subtitle of this, another enjoyable zine from Juls Generic. She writes from an emotional standpoint that we can all understand, and wonder "why didn't I ever think of it in exactly those words before?" The way she delicately weaves between straight storytelling while linking together seemingly random tangents is remarkable because it's done so effortlessly. (dug) JULS GENERIC #4 (1/4 size, 10 pages, \$1 or stamp in Canada, address above) This is a really well-written and well put together zine dealing with death in some of its various forms. She takes three disparate events and winds them altogether with remarkable effectiveness. There are no graphics or illustrations, just a typewritten zine that succeeds in a literary way. Very personal, self-revealing writing, so if you're squeamish about knowing the sordid details of a strangers life, beware. If that's exactly what you're looking for, then you are in luck, because this is one of the better per-zines I've seen. (dug) JULS GENERIC #5 "AL'E IT UP!" (1/8 size, 64 pages, \$4, address above) Ah, glorious storytelling of punk rock shows, punk rock love, and life in a punk rock house I dig it. With several asides and commentaries on Canadian separatist movements, also amusing and confrontational. The stories are spiced with lots of drinking, drug use, and sex. I like this zine. And it comes with a tape of many of the bands mentioned in the pages of the zine, most of which are pretty darn good, just a couple others pretty mediocre, but the tape really adds to the reading and understanding of the story. You get more of a feel of the times discussed. A zine with a soundtrack provided for your amusement and delight, what a great idea! (dug)

KEEP LOVING KEEP FIGHTING #4 (\$2ppd/ Hope/ 1324 Marigny/New Orleans LA 70117) This is an autumn zine. It's very emotional and full of shedding leaves and transition and sadness. It's also about ghosts and the ways in which your past is part of you and takes you to your future. Hope writes about her grandfather dying of throat cancer and 3 generations of hardcore smokers in her family. She writes about her love of the Northeast in fall and how hard that is to translate into a New Orleans fall that feels like a languid summer. Hope is also coming to terms with sadness and depression, grr. Whether the sadness is chemical or based on the lost of a relationship, or the reference to a horrible accident, there is a poetic style to some of the writing and that emotive vagueness that is like a love letter written to someone other than you who is reading it. Shelley has a contribution, which I really loved, which also touches on the ghosts and past to future of life. About longing to be something, and then realizing that the path you've taken has led you where you wanted but never quite thought you'd be. This nice little zine, does take a turn for the optimistic side by the end and has a lighthearted, driving off into the sunset of your life ending. It's got a mono and ghost printed cover and an artistic assembly of the paper, which is as endearing as the writing. (-Chris)

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Agathocles "Alive And Mincing" Cd Brutal Grindcore from Belgium. We all know them by now. This is almost sold out and gone forever

Words That Burn "Spawning Ground For Hatred" Cd / Lp (Mailorder gets Ltd to 100 Red Vinyl) Surly, gurgling mid-paced

"crusty" hc that proves what E.N.T. SHOULD have sounded like as a death metal band... (Ex Remission) (Violence Zine)

To What End? "The Purpose Beyond" Cd / Lp Burly and melodic hardcore / punk from Sweden featuring current members of Wolfpack

Remains of the Day "Hanging on Rebellion" Cd / Lp Melodic and heavy crust with a violin.

Asschapel "Fire And Destruction" Cd / Lp Asschapel lays down 12 tracks of sheer metalized head banging destruction

Disgust "The Horror Of It All" Cd / Lp Brutal UK D-beat crust from a founding E.N.T. member. (Formerly on Earache and Nuclear Blast Recs)

Facedowninshit "Shit Bloody Shit" Cd Early discography. think stoner rock, grind / crust, hardcore / punk, doom / sludge = FDIS.

Cluster Bomb Unit / Raagg Split 7" \$4.00 ppd US / \$6.00 World CBU: Crusty Doom ridden hardcore. Raagg: Brutal Jap Hardcore.

Wolfpack "Allday Hell" Cd / Lp 100% raging Swedish HC that fucking hammers from start to finish.

Misery "Early Years" Cd Discography of their early material. Brutal legendary crust that is essential in everyone's collection if you like crust

Remains of the Day "An Underlying Frequency" Cd / Lp R.O.T.D. play a mix of violent crust and hardcore

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hell I just read. Two bucks to read someone question whether or not the Slingshot calendar is too capitalist, then asking the question: "So, what's the big conclusion out of all this mess? Would I disappoint you if I said I didn't actually have one?" Well, yeah, it IS disappointing. I can get confused by stuff all by myself, reading someone else's confused thoughts doesn't help at all. (dug) **KERBLOOM #52** (see above) The January-February 2005 issue of Kerbloom might just be my favorite one yet (which is saying a lot, because I always love the work of Arnoose). Standard pocket sized goodness with a couple of hearts printed on a pinked cover. The text (which is still done with a letterpress, but this time features a handwritten, scanned, polymer plate process) is all about the hottest new anarcho punk platform. Are you ready? Drumroll, please... Anarcho-Snuggliest!!! Yes! A quick and lively discussion of affection, alienation, and the importance of touch. Personal. Political. Perfect. Order today and snuggle up with some damn good reading! (-karoline)

KICKS #1 (\$2ppd/PO Box 21659/1424 Commercial Dr/Vancouver BC/V5L 1K9) This is a new zine out of Canada that pretty much consists of columns, two band interviews (the unicorns and my project blue), and some comics. The columns are mostly humorous in nature and are about things such as punk houses, fried foods, Orson Welles' role in Transformers the Movie, and other wacky anecdotes. There is one about cockfighting which is pretty

sickening as animal fighting is a pretty horrible and a real problem almost everywhere and I can't really see the humorous nature in it at all. (european) **KILLED BY NOISE #34** (Bohdan Machy/PO Box 2/763 61 Napajedla/Czech Republic/machetza@post.cz) This 8 page newsletter is in Czech, and even though it's hard for me to tell you the exact contents, I like it. It's got a nice layout, with photos and seems mostly to be an informative contact oriented paper listing show dates, news and reviews. Bohdan does a label called Impregnate Noise Laboratories, so I suspect this is kind of an extension of the label. Reminds me of Plastic Newsletter that used to cover crust and grind and came out of Poland. (-Chris)

KUBBA #5 (\$7 try \$2-3/Jessica/2705 Great Forest Dr/West Bend, WI 53090-0107/kubbazine@lycos.com) Jessica crams several years of her life, after leaving high school, into 36 pages of cut/paste small type, photos, and even a comic. In this personal, she mainly covers travel (D.C., New York, Boston, Minnesota), house-hunting and roommates, and photographs gaudy motel signs. This is a good natured, personable zine that you will probably like. (jersey)

LIVING FREE #130 (Feb. 05) (\$2/Jim Stumm/Hiller Branch, Box 29/Buffalo NY 14223) This is an 8 page newsletter that is in part an edited open forum with letters which share and discuss ideas such as wood floors, good wood for fence posts, border businesses, forums on internet vs. zines, a review of a book about hijacking a space shuttle to fly to the moon and further analysis of whether this is possible. Not too much of this appealed to me. But the first half of this newsletter was a summery and recount of the 7 gardens that Jim has had over his lifetime in and around Buffalo reading about these experiences. Most often he was plagued by black walnut trees and sun blockage, but he knows how to create some good growing soil and devised a system for making raised beds from concrete blocks that would drain well and create enough depth for good harvests. It's been years since I've seen or read this libertarian paper, and it ties back to my years in NYC when I was looking at 'back to the land' ideas and discovered many publications that involved people who were living by alternative means. Dwelling Portably is one of the only ones I've continued to keep up with. (-Chris)

LOWER FORTY EIGHT #1 (\$1+stamps/Jack Marchany/PO Box 3852/Chandler AZ 85244/lowerfortyeight@hotmail.com) I thoroughly enjoyed this. Jack and I have been penpals at times over the years and while we are very different, we share some things in common and I've always found him to have interesting observations and he's been one of the only people I've known with a punk connection in Alaska. Flipping through this zine, it's full of photos of friends and family - his kids and girlfriend - and it actually doesn't read quite like you might think. In many ways this is an "I made it through all



kids in Arizona. But this zine is mostly about the trips out of Alaska and back, the funerals for friends who have OD'd, the recovery period, and quality time then and now spent with his kids. The original inspiration for doing this zine came from a friend who converted his diesel truck to run on vegetable oil, and he writes extensively about that. He also shares the experiences of DIY home tattoo removal (seriously hardcore). This is a zine about real life, lived hard and gritty and honestly, even if a bit crooked. It might offend some, but even if you don't approve of porn shops, military service, shooting guns or excessive drug use, Jack is who he is and makes no apologies—he's smart and down to earth and shares his experiences and passions (friend and family) here in the zine and it makes for a great read, which I thoroughly enjoyed. (-Chris)

MACBETH #1 (1/4 size, 12 pages. Free w/ stamp- Kirk Matthew White, PO Box 591041, SF, CA 94159) This is an angry diatribe against the state of theater in the United States, both large and small, as greedy and exclusionary. This angry actor wants to organize like-minded people to form free classes and acting seminars. The main essay ends with an ominous threat directed at theater companies: "Offer free classes and workshops for people who have a desire to be actors. If not, you may have blood on your hands." It's kind of kooky. The contact e-mail is macbeths1@hotmail.com. Maybe you're an angry actor, too. Get in touch with this dude, for sure. (dug)

MAKING THE CUT (\$1 US, Canada, Mexico/ \$2 world/prisoners pay in stamps/Shannon Colebank/Whizzbanger Productions/PO Box 5591/Portland, OR 97228) This is an article by Martha Coventry that illuminates the practice of doctors altering children born without "normal" genitals. She traces the history of clitoridectomy in Western Medicine (cure for masturbation and hysteria) and informs us how the doctors—with and without the parents—turn intersexed children into boys and girls. Getting at the underlying societal myth that one has to be "girl" or "boy", this is a clear-eyed look at how these crimes against children's bodies are justified by society's gender con-

structs while ignoring the harm done to people not born "normal". Gets at the idea that "normal" is more than what our society says it is. (jersey) **MIKE SPIKE THE PUNK ROCK SKELETON #4** (1/4 size, 8 pages, 50cents or trade. Ghoulstomper/PO Box 8793/Toledo, OH 43263) In this mini comic, Mike Spike, a re-animated, mohawked skeleton, attempts suicide. Some dinosaur skeletons are re-animated and run amok. A science professor is transformed into a large-headed superhuman called Professor Brainopolis. The three events are linked somehow, but I guess we'll have to be patient and wait for issue #5, cuz this doesn't make a lick of sense on its own. (dug)

MORGENMUFFEL #13 (60p + stamp/ \$3 to US/ £2 Euro/ PO Box 74/Brighton BN1 4ZQ/katchoo63@yahoo.co.uk) This is my favorite comic zine I think. Isy does such a good job of combining a good story with great drawings forming a solid pair up. It's engaging and I love every minute this. This issue is about Isy and Mike's travels from the UK to Korea, by way of Berlin, Latvia, Moscow, Siberia and Beijing. They make the trip all by coach, bus and train and take nearly 3 months to do so, 4 weeks of which are spent in Korea where Isy has family. The stories are great. They stay in squats and hostels and meet up with other anarchists and punks and get taken care of. There are interviews with 2 of the Russian punks/activists who showed them around and another guy in Latvia. The

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NOT 4 SALE #6 (Free, but send postage, cheapstamps/Ben o/b Rilani Longid/FA 186, KM 5' Ballili, Latrididad' 2601, Bengwe/Philippines/o/b Joel Pabina/743 Torsillo St/ Dagat-Dagat/ Kalookan City 1400/ Phillipines/n4scolekn@lycos.com) This is a fuckin rad eco-punk political/personal zine that proudly wears its emotions and DIY punk aspirations. The intro recounts a multi-day hike to the summit of Mt. Apo and what was encountered on the way, there's a DIY hitchhiking guide across the Philippines, tales from protests, how to do Food Not Bombs, recipes, Earth First! report, and an interview with Resist and Exist. While it is some work to read the handwritten text, your effort will be rewarded, punk. Recommended. (mishap)

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OVERWORKED AND STILL BROKE #2 (\$3/Joe LeVasseur/483 Lebanon Rd/Franklin, CT 06254/bulk orders: joenobody@riseup.net) This printed zine comes from a working class pride angle and mostly consists of Joe talking about working construction jobs and the jerks one has to deal with outside of the boss. All of us who work can probably relate—and have encountered suck-up coworkers—but I got bored reading this. There's also some memories of people he knew back when that also talks about creepy, fucked-up men who target girls for sex. His advice is good: keep an eye on them and don't hesitate to intervene if necessary. Joe says he put the Crimethinc. logo on the front so people would buy this, but he wants "nothing to do with them." I, myself, often put the hammer and sickle on my zine so the commies will buy it and hear my anarchist message! Duh. (mishap)

and fireworks, drawn really well in an angular, deco style that is really eye-catching. (dug)

PANCAKE JOE #4 (1/4 size, 8 pages, 50cents or trade. Ghoulstomper/PO Box 8793/Toledo, OH 43263) This is my favorite issue of the mini-comic Pancake Joe yet. Probably because there's a lot of swearing. Fuckin' Big Robot, creation of Dr. Von Scyrl, is smashing up the city. There's an argument because Joe calls it Big Fuckin' Robot. Then a Big Fuckin' Spaceship shows up to battle Fuckin' Big Robot. See what I mean? There's a lot of swearing and swearing is funny. (dug) **PAPING #11** (\$8ppd/ Box 128/ 45 E. 7th St/ NY C 10003 <www.paping.org>) This has grown as a great collective comic, headed up by John, who teaches art to young city kids. The is full sized (8 1/2 x 11) with silk-screened jacket covers. The theme of this year is Us and Them, and everyone interprets that as differently as the art styles vary. Some are comic strips, some more drawings or graphics or illustrations. I still enjoy John's linocut stories about the kids the most, although there are some other notably interesting styles here, as well as a comic about the last round of the soapbox derby in Brooklyn. This is a great publication, always highly recommended for those who like art, comics and artistic DIY zines. It's unfortunate that good art comes at a price, hence the \$8 for this. (-Chris)

PLASTIC BOMB #50 (ES/ Plastic Bomb/ Postfach 100-205/

47002 Duisburg/ Germany / www.plastic-bomb.de) This massive German punk mag has changed paper (it's less glossy) but it's still huge and it's still in German. The bands covered are diverse and offer a wide spectrum of known and less known punk. There are int'l's w/Chumbawumba, Indonesian, TV Smith, Driving the Salt, Twisted Chords, and The Now-Not-Benial. The tour diary of Hammerhead is scanned in and would make your eyes dizzy to read. There is also a No Respect tour report, an article on illegal downloads on the internet, an Attack Records Festival report, an old-school punk history report, and a Herstory of punk with Jenny from Inner Conflict. The reviews are nicely spread out through the whole zine, rather than tucked in the back. And while some of the stuff covered in here is more popular, this is a good mix of politics, DIY and punk all around which is what I think makes this mag cool, even though I can't read it. Comes with a CD, and a huge mailorder catalog as well. (-Chris)

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To me, it just means I relate and appreciate this, cause this is my peeps and my interest and well, my family. The interviews here are with Extinction of Mankind, Ballast and Iskra all of whom have new Lps out on PE. EOM have found new inspiration to play and record, Ballast and Iskra are newer bands with loads of ideas and politics to back their music. There are also interviews with Blown to Bits, who got flooded by hurricane Ivan in NC last year, and Avskum coming over to the US for a tour this year. All these bands are great bands, good people, with great stuff to say



NY, and I really enjoyed it, and I really enjoyed reading about these experiences. Most often he was plagued by black walnut trees and sun blockage, but he knows how to create some good growing soil and devised a system for making raised beds from concrete blocks that would drain well and create enough depth for good harvests. It's been years since I've seen or read this libertarian paper, and it ties back to my years in NYC when I was looking at 'back to the land' ideas and discovered many publications that involved people who were living by alternative means. Dwelling Portably is one of the only ones I've continued to keep up with. (-Chris)

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P.TERRE? #2 (16 page, Cost: Alessandro Baronciani/Via Valazzi 38, 61100 Pesaro/Oppure, Italy. (mkmtta@libero.it) Okay, I'm not sure I got the name of this zine right, or the address where you can order it. And I certainly didn't find a cost. You see, this comic is written in Italian, and I don't know Italian. In a stroke of genius, the author of the comic provides English translations that you can cut out and paste right into the zine. Pretty handy, eh? And I'm thankful for that, because this is a nifty comic and I'm glad I got to read it. Another tale of heartbreak

comics and artistic DIY zines. It's unfortunate that good art comes at a price, hence the \$8 for this. (-Chris)

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from Sweden who are this year. All these bands are great bands, good people, with great stuff to say about their music, politics, and life, which make for good interviews. There's so much more. The featured artist is Kieran, who I know from Armed and Hammered days in Canada, but he's now known as member and artist for the Restarts in London. Always nice to see old friend and faces today! There's info on alternative and DIY menstrual products, the prison section, Dave Trenga's section on the religious right, same sex marriage, and the conservative Christian's ability to not accept people's choice. As if that is not plenty

RIVERWÖRS
COMIX

ISSUE 3- HALLOWEEN/HORROR
ISSUE- \$2 PPD

ISSUE 4- THE PURE MADNESS

Hardcore Holocaust

New D-beat (to death) & hc punk butchery, available now from Hardcore Holocaust.

NOTE: We have moved locations to Austin TX. Our new mailing address is:
PO BOX 143403, AUSTIN TX 78714, USA. Many new releases are in the works, so check out our website for news & a huge mailorder catalog of worldwide HC-Punk.

MICROCOISM PUBLISHING

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MORGENMUFFEL #13 (60p + stamp/ \$3 to US/ £2 Euro/ PO Box 74/ Brighton BN1 4ZQ/katchoo63@yahoo.co.uk) This is my favorite comic zine I think. Isy does such a good of combining a good story with great drawings forming a solid pair up. It's engaging and I love every minute this. This issue is about Isy and Mike's travels from the UK to Korea, by way of Berlin, Latvia, Moscow, Siberia and Beijing. They make the trip all by coach, bus and train and take nearly 3 months to do so, 4 weeks of which are spent in Korea where Isy has family. The stories are great. They stay in squats and hostels and meet up with other anarchists and punks and get taken care of. There are interviews with 2 of the Russian punks/activists who showed them around and another guy in Latvia. The interviews are pretty intense, as life is considerably more difficult in Russia and the former Soviet Block countries, but the interviews of straight text were much harder to read after the flow of the illustrated stories. Worthwhile though. This is a fantastic issue. They get back home and return to their collective space and take up with the cooking for the anarchist teapot; notice that everyone is having kids, and Isy gets a new bike. I love Isy and I love this zine!!! (-Chris)

MULTI KID #4 BROKEN HEARTS WOULD FIND A HOME (\$1.50 ppd/PO Box

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ZINES

to chew on, there is a tour story from Beyond Description and Jilted, the columns, letters and reviews. And since this marks the anniversary of PE, there are some photos from the party and a retrospective of the issues over the years. I've been plowing through this eagerly and steadily but there is so much essential content, I'm not totally done yet. PE is back with a bang. They have been for some time, but excellent issues like this just prove that there is a lot of great shit going on in the punk world and they're documenting it in fine form!! (-Chris)

RANCID NEWS #9 (\$3ppd or trade/PO Box 382/456 the Strange/WC2R UK) Settling into publishing every 3 months now, this new(ish) punk mag is consistent and proven to be one of my favorites. I've said that all along, but with each issue that is just made more certain and I'm actually continually amazed at how good this is—in being right on, diverse enough and yet focused enough to be just solid. There's tons of material here and it's all worthwhile. No filler at all and that's saying a lot for a 100+ page zine! Seriously, this is great! We've got the basics covered - columns (diverse and representative of the zine), band interviews, extensive music reviews in different format categories, zines, books, and DVDs. There are news bits and plenty of commentary articles on politics and issues. Of particular interest is the summary about what the G8 is and reasons why there is a movement to protest against them, including organizing going on now. There's a scary article on an agenda to install identity cards in the UK all the in guise of fighting terrorism. Also of great interest was the article on Iraq and what is going on, and who stands to gain. Really good info. There's also info on the Zapatista insurgency, which is an article I found hard to get into, plus writing about the Tsunami relief and how the US and UK were peer pressured into trying to keep up with the rest of the world. The band interviews cover everything from local Five Knuckle and Adequate Seven, to Dragon Force, Kill the Lights, Malkovich, Mercury League, Mike Park (of Asian Man Records) about his solo music plus Chris Murray. I had a great time reading the chat with Leftover Crack, which was quite positive in light of their gripes about the world order. The interview with the master piercer at Exeter Body & Piercing was really interesting, and the interview with Mack, the Evasion guy was really good as well. He's an interesting guy, and whether you like him or not, he

makes some great points and takes the jabs made at him in stride, but mostly lets them roll off of him. I've read an interview or two with him before, and he is a smart guy who speaks well, and this interview proves that once again. There are a few common themes, which run through this issue - a pro vegan, anti-voting stance (not necessarily related), as well as a strong support of DIY ethics. Overall the zine has a great mix of smart politics, punk, hardcore, straight edge, animal rights, with enough diversity of viewpoints and stylistic genres to keep this representative of the punk scene in a way which is also of sound interest. Hope that makes sense. This is the best zine of its type right now I think. Did I mention great artwork too! (-Chris)

RAZORCAKE #24 (\$3ppd US/PO Box 170291 SF CA 94117) I'm so glad to see that this great zine expands with each issue to include more of Arwen's great writing, memoirs and story telling. She has such a gift with writing, it leaves me breathless. The ability to say so much with few words always amazes me, just as the ability to tell very personal and close to the heart stories, often about friends and lovers in a way where making it public is somehow okay is a gift that I have never quite been able to manage myself. In this edition she writes of the building intensity of flirting whilst giving a tour of SF, of budding romance and failed timings and the pain of dealing with a death in the family. She writes of asthma as a child and being a vulnerable and yet invisible target as a woman on public streets. What is so great about Arwen's writing is that while these are the basic topics, the meaning goes so much further. It's romantic and harsh, poetic and straight forward, and beautifully written, and recommended. (-Chris)

RAZORCAKE #24 (\$3ppd US/PO box 42129 LA Ca 90042/6 issue sub \$15 US/ www.razorcake.com) Is it shitty to say that Razorcake is a standard in our bathroom? I don't so because it means that they stick around for a long time and get read. I especially like reading Sean Carswell's intro and column. If you've been feeling disturbed at the ideas of Against Me being sell-outs, then you should read his column in here and find out a bit about the mega media corporate conglomerate. This issue has interviews w/Ultranaut, Alice Bag, Baseball Furies, Von Iva, Smalltown, 30 pages of reviews and loads of columns. The interview w/Alice Bag is awesome. It goes pretty in depth to the old days of the LA punk scene, how the Bags fit in, what it was like, etc. and then brings us up to date on her life now and the music she's making again and she's pretty rad all around, so it was quite inspiring to read. (-Chris) **Issue #25** just showed up. It's got interviews with North Lincoln, Federation X, Hot Snakes, Giant Haystacks - who are these bands? A bunch of dudes I'm not sure that I'm all that interested in. But the columns and reviews are the norm here. Ben Sapkin has a couple pages of his daily chronicles. There is a feature on DIY Rock in Boston (yes rock, not punk) and then perhaps the most interesting to me is the extensive article about vinyl—as in how it's made, how it works and why so many are still so obsessed with it. That's cool. Who knows maybe I'll turn around and realize that I'm missed the boat and one of these rock bands is a hot new discovery, but at least this time around I'm not that intrigued with the band selection. (-Chris)

RENT THIS SPACE #3 (70¢+pos'v Dylan Haskins/ 43 Marlton Demesne/ Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow, Ireland <tszine@hotmail.com>) I really enjoyed this little (1/4 sized) zine that is a window into Dylan's life. I always try to set the location of things I read, and I could tell pretty early on that this was not in the US, with words like gobshite, and DART trains to Kilcoole station, gig collections, and all sorts of cool names

like Dara, Eoin, and Oran, well, it was cool to find out this is in Ireland. It's nice to have a sense of place in this modern homogenous world. This is a personal zine, with an emo tendency, as well as a very optimistic and positive outlook. Dylan writes a bit about missed opportunities with a girl, or rather the break-up in an emo and indirect way, but the tone of the zine doesn't stay there. He also laments about not being able to tell a friend how much you like them, and gets really excited about new connections and friends made. There's a gig collective doing shows and fests that sounds pretty exciting, and some year-end reflections with good expectations for the new year. This is a great zine for the transition into spring cause it's full of hope and DIY passion. I really enjoyed this. (-Chris)

in fact everything looks good in here just startlingly different: classic comic panels, full page grayscale drawings, hand writing of a hundred different styles, plenty of trashy potty humor, and a touch of politics mixed in. I felt like the majority of this went over my head, in that "I don't get it way" that jokes and anything funny usually do, and even many comics that are either serial or quiet and poetic- my fast paced eyes go "huh", but still often enjoy the imagery. And I did enjoy quite a bit of the artwork and get enough of the jokes to not feel left out. I can do with out the jokes, and the sexy columns and stuff, but overall this is a solid effort and I like that it focuses on the beer city. (-Chris) **RIVERWURST #5** (same info) This issue is called "Riverwurst vs. GW Bush 2004" and consequently many of the comics inside are either about W, or his politics and policies. Still full of sarcasm and jokes, though some more than others. And there are plenty of comics that really have nothing to do with W. On par with issue #4, just focused a bit more on the political debacle. (-Chris)

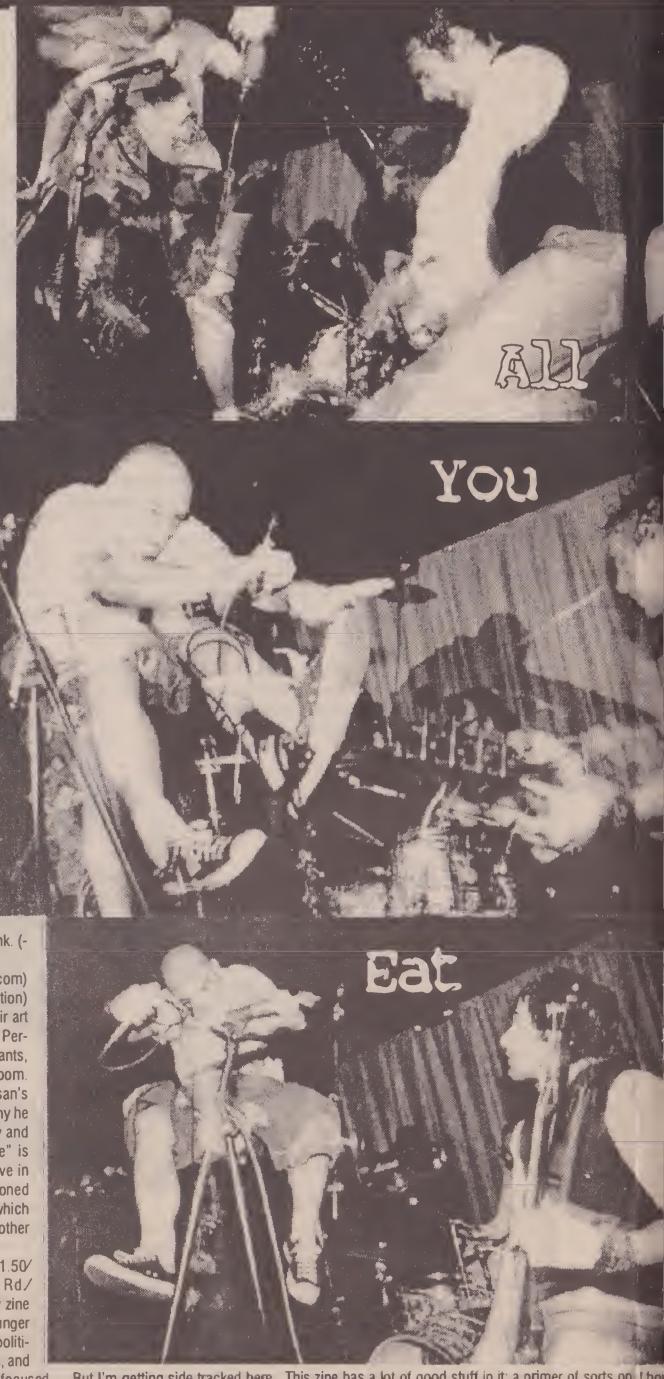
SLACKERS AND LAYABOUTS (winter 04) (richblabla@hotmail.com) More talk of crusty squatters in Rotterdam. In comic form, a new squat is opened and quickly shut down and the squatters spend a funny night in jail. A squat show is about to happen and then the cops block of the street, so the punks move the show and the gig goes on. There's also a bunch of one of flyers for cafe's and a tips for winter squatting with no electricity and more good punk comic artwork. I love Richard's stuff and have printed a bunch of it in S&L. (-Chris)

SLINGSHOT #85 (Feb/Mar 05) (\$1 US/ \$2.50 world/ 3124 Shattuck Ave./Berkeley Ca 94705) This is a catchy looking issue with a black and red cover. This long running radical paper outta Berkeley is always a great source for commentary on local news to global issues. I like the tone of it and find it both informative and readable. There's some analysis on the warnings (not) given out about the Tsunami, and how if capitalist interests would have been at risk that the ultimate end could have been a bit different. A report and call for help in a direct action in Appalachia to shut down the coal industry. There is some pro-sex talk to counter the right wing's media squelch on the topic. Info report on the demise of the 40th St. Warehouse in Oakland, a new infoshop in Oklahoma, info on Jeff Free Luers, Palestine, striking back at military recruiters, and props to moms who rock. There is a good info article on the military occupation of Achmed providence in Indonesia, and the ways in which the government is using the tsunami and to further its military power. This is a topic that I think most people don't know too much about, and more will probably come out about it as so much attention is put on the area and activists start to take note. This is a good start in finding out more. There is a load more in here about global warming, militarism, activism, natural disasters and some pages in Spanish as well. Solid and recommended. This is a consistently good paper, but this is an exceptional issue I think. (-Chris)

STRAPLESS #1 (free/straplessmag@yahoo.com) Deanna put out this "shameless self-promotion" with Hassan and other's help to highlight their art projects. Photography, drawings, reviews (A Perfect Circle, The Fall, Tegan & Sara), mini-rants, and overheard conversations in the bathroom. The most interesting piece for me was Hassan's on being a feminist man and questioning why he doesn't seem to identify so much so lately and the 13th Wave "rolls on. This "magazine" is OK—and might be worth a look if you live in Richmond and are into the above mentioned art—but I didn't like the overall tone, which came off as superior and impatient with other people... (jersey)

TALES FROM THE CIRCLE PIT #1 (\$1.50/ TFCP Zine/ 1449 Hungry Hollow Rd/ Leechburg PA 15656) This is a new zine outta the Pittsburgh area from the younger generation. It's an interesting mix of political thought with introductory articles, and a focus on streetpunk. It's a positive focused zine with a real plea to support the local zine and drop scenerest, and punker than thou attitudes. But I found it kinda kinda in juxtaposition. They say fuck Anti-Flag they're not real punks, the Exploited are the real punks. And they complain about how people won't

come to support shows at all ages venues like Robotj, and that older 21+ year old punks want to go to drinking, but then go on to defend



But I'm getting side tracked here. This zine has a lot of good stuff in it: a primer of sorts on the feminism, a brief history of the steel industry's rise and fall in Pittsburgh, some stuff on the homeland security, youth revolution, and really basic chats with new young local bands that Nobody's Hero and the Fight, and a chat with Justin from Crucial Unit which is a bit longer (they have called it quits now). Lots of punk photos of their friends included, as well as a couple of mine from a BEL show (!). It's all kinda basic. And in some cases the baseness does come across in a "this is how it's" way, which makes me want to counterpoint, but I think I'm just too closely tied, yet too far removed personally. Nonetheless, local support for scenes is important and I applaud the effort here to bring some politics to the street punk genre. (-Chris)

SOUND POLLUTION

SINCE 1990



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Six bands, 28 songs, on 3 split EPs or on one CD. Pairing up U.S. and Japanese powerhouses VOETSEK, NO VALUE, THE SPROUTS, RUNNAMUCKS, THREATENER, FASTS. Triple EP on colored vinyl. 3x7" price the same as an LP.

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SAYYADINA

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CYNESS

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Skull shattering grindcore. 22 punishing songs that any fan of Lee Dorrian era NAPALM DEATH will love. Classic early Earache style.

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Habits 7" EP

6 new tracks of UNDER PRESSURE's killer mix of driving HC and bad ass rock n' roll riffs.



protest against them, including organizing going on now. There's a scary article on an agenda to install identity cards in the UK & all the in guise of fighting terrorism. Also of great interest was the article on Iraq and what is going on, and who stands to gain. Really good info. There's also info on the Zapatista insurgency, which is an article I found hard to get into, plus writing about the Tsunami relief and how the US and UK were peer pressured into trying to keep up with the rest of the world. The band interviews cover everything from local Five Knuckle and Adequate Seven, to Dragon Force, Kill the Lights, Malkovich, Mercury League, Mike Park (of Asian Man Records) about his solo music plus Chris Murray. I had a great time reading the chat with Leftover Crack, which was quite positive in light of their gripes about the world order. The interview with the master piercer at Exeter Body & Piercing was really interesting, and the interview with Mack, the Evasion guy was really good as well. He's an interesting guy, and whether you like him or not, he



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Six bands, 28 songs, on 3 split EPs or on one CD. Pairing up U.S. and Japanese powerhouses VOETSEK, NO VALUE, THE SPROUTS, RUNNAMUCKS, THREATENER, FASTS. Triple EP on colored vinyl. 3x7" price the same as an LP.

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Skull shattering grindcore. 22 punishing songs that any fan of Lee Dorrian era NAPALM DEATH will love. Classic early Earache style.

UNDER PRESSURE

Habits 7" EP

6 new tracks of UNDER PRESSURE's killer mix of driving HC and bad ass rock n' roll riffs.

I ACCUSE

7" EP

I ACCUSE debut EP is 8 songs of raging HC thrash with tons of energy and hooks. Reminiscent of classic Youth Of Today.

VIVISICK/MUKEKA DI RATO

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VIVISICK kicks out bad ass Systematic Death style rocking Japanese HC thrash while M.D.R. hammer some seriously brutal and catchy Brazilian HC. Rocks to the fuckin core!

BRODY'S MILITIA / WIDESPREAD BLOODSHED

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BM = Thrash n' roll cruelty. 11 killer anthems of debauchery. WSBS blasts off 25 tracks of hook-laden rapid fire hardcore.

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Fast paced Japanese HC to full blown hundred mile an hour insanity: x-SINK, so you know they know how to bring it.

UNDER PRESSURE

Still No Future LP/CD

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RAZORCAKE #24 (\$3ppd US/PO box 42129 LA Ca 90042/6 issue sub \$15 US/ www.razorcake.com) Is it shitty to say that Razorcake is a standard in our bathroom? I don't so because it means that they stick around for a long time and get read. I especially like reading Sean Carswell's intro and column. If you've been feeling disturbed at the ideas of Against Me being sell-outs, then you should read his column in here and find out a bit about the mega media corporate conglomerate. This issue has interviews w/Ultraman, Alice Bag, Baseball Furies, Von Iva, Smalltown, 30 pages of reviews and loads of columns. The interview w/Alice Bag is awesome. It goes pretty in depth to the old days of the LA punk scene, how the Bags fit in, what it was like, etc. and then brings us up to date on her life now and the music she's making again and she's pretty rad all around, so it was quite inspiring to read. (-Chris) **Issue #25** just showed up. It's got interviews with North Lincoln, Federation X, Hot Snakes, Giant Haystacks - who are these bands? A bunch of dudes I'm not sure that I'm all that interested in. But the columns and reviews are the norm here. Ben Snakepit has a couple pages of his daily chronicles. There is a feature on DIY Rock in Boston (yes rock, not punk) and then perhaps the most interesting to me is the extensive article about vinyl—as in how it's made, how it works and why so many are still so obsessed with it. That's cool. Who knows maybe I'll turn around and realize that I'm missed the boat and one of these rock bands is a hot new discovery, but at least this time around I'm not that intrigued with the band selection. (-Chris)

RENT THIS SPACE #3 (\$70+pos/ Dylan Haskins/ 43 Marlton Demesne/ Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow, Ireland <rtszine@hotmail.com>) I really enjoyed this little (1/4 sized) zine that is a window into Dylan's life. I always try to set the location of things I read, and I could tell pretty early on that this was not in the US, with words like gobshite, and DART trains to Kilcoole station, gig collections, and all sorts of cool names

like Dara, Eoin, and Oran, well, it was cool to find out this is in Ireland. It's nice to have a sense of place in this modern homogenous world. This is a personal zine, with an emo tendency, as well as a very optimistic and positive outlook. Dylan writes a bit about missed opportunities with a girl, or rather the break-up in an emo and indirect way, but the tone of the zine doesn't stay there. He also laments about not being able to tell a friend how much you like them, and gets really excited about new connections and friends made. There's a gig collective doing shows and fests that sounds pretty exciting, and some year-end reflections with good expectations for the new year. This is a great zine for the transition into spring cause it's full of hope and DIY passion. I really enjoyed this. (-Chris)

RIVERWURST #4 (\$3ppd/ Box 511553/ Milwaukee WI 53203) This is a comic collection that mostly features artists from Milwaukee. This issue has graduated to having a glossy color cover, which is a nice step. The insides are newsprint, so the overall format reminds me a bit of WWII, however the contents do not. The drawing styles vary greatly, but that is not a cryptic way of saying that they suck, because

I love Richard's stuff and have printed a bunch of it in S&L. (-Chris)

SLINGSHOT #85 (Feb/Mar 05) (\$1 US/ \$2.50 world/ 3124 Shattuck Ave./Berkeley Ca 94705) This is a catchy looking issue with a black and red cover. This long running radical paper outta Berkeley is always a great source for commentary on local news to global issues. I like the tone of it and find it both informative and readable. There's some analysis on the warnings (not) given out about the Tsunami, and how if capitalist interests would have been at risk that the ultimate end could have been a bit different. A report and call for help in a direct action in Appalachia to shut down the coal industry. There is some pro-sex talk to counter the rightwing's media squelch on the topic. Info report on the demise of the 40th St. Warehouse in Oakland, a new infoshop in Oklahoma, info on Jeff Free Lovers, Palestine, striking back at military recruiters, and props to moms who rock. There is a good info article on the military occupation of Ache providence in Indonesia, and the ways in which the government is using the tsunami and to further it's military power. This is a topic that I think most people don't know too much about, and more will probably come out about it as so much attention is put on the area and activists start to take note. This is a good start in finding out more. There is a load more in here about global warming, militarism, activism, natural disasters and some pages in Spanish as well. Solid and recommended. This is a consistently good paper, but this is an exceptional issue I think. (-Chris)

STRAPLESS #1 (free/straplessmag@yahoo.com) Deanna put out this "shameless self-promotion" with Hassan and other's help to highlight their art projects. Photography, drawings, reviews (A Perfect Circle, The Fall, Tegan & Sara), mini-rants, and overheard conversations in the bathroom. The most interesting piece for me was Hassan's on being a feminist man and questioning why he doesn't seem to identify so much so lately and the 13rd Wave" rolls on. This "magazine" is OK—and might be worth a look if you live in Richmond and are into the above mentioned art—but I didn't like the overall tone, which came off as superior and impatient with other people... (jersey)

TALES FROM THE CIRCLE PIT #1 (\$1.50/ TFCP Zine/ 1449 Hungry Hollow Rd/ Leechburg PA 15656) This is a new zine outta the Pittsburgh area from the younger generation. It's an interesting mix of political thought with introductory articles, and a focus on streetpunk. It's a positive focused zine with a real plea to support the local zine and drop scenester, and punker than thou attitudes. But I found it kinda in juxtaposition. They say fuck Anti-Flag they're not real punks, The Exploited are the real punks. And they complain about how people won't

come to support shows at all ages venues like Robot, and that older 21+ year old punks want to go to drinking, but then go on to defend the Casualties and their shows saying that getting drunk and having fun at those shows is the best thing going. From what I see Pittsburgh has one of the most supportive and unified scenes, with great venues and all ages possibilities, and I see people support that, but I'm from out of town, so these kids see something else. But I don't think the Casualties will be breathing fresh air into a dying punk scene, they will not be playing at a DIY allages, non-drinking venue any day soon.



Eat

But I'm getting side tracked here. This zine has a lot of good stuff in it: a primer of sorts on feminism, a brief history of the steel industry's rise and fall in Pittsburgh, some stuff on homeland security, youth revolution, and really basic chats with new young local bands that Nobody's Hero and the Fight, and a chat with Justin from Crucial Unit which is a bit longer (they have called it quits now). Lots of punk photos of their friends included, as well as a couple of mine from a BEL show (!). It's all kinda basic. And in some cases the basicness does come across in a "this is how it is" way, which makes me want to counterpoint, but I think I'm just too closely tied, yet too far removed personally. Nonetheless, local support for scenes is important and I applaud the effort here to bring some politics to the street punk genre. (-Chris)

TEENAGE DEATH SONGS #16 (Tennessee Jones/ 1090 Green Ave/ Brooklyn NY 11221/ Tennessee@softskull.com) This has been one of my long standing favorite literary personal zines. Tennessee is a breathtaking writer, and after publishing his latest novel (Deliver No Where), I was glad to see that there was still a zine waiting to get out of the cagey life in Brooklyn. Tennessee is from the hollers of Appalachia, and writes in the sort of way, and tells the sort of stories, that fascinate me endlessly in the pile of books I read. What makes this better



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Though that here is not only someone I have known, but also a voice I can relate to even more than that one on the shelf at the bookstore. This is one of our own that has a gift of storytelling that is just breathtaking. Tennessee is a transsexual who has transitioned from female to male, and there is writing about that in here, along with lots of coming to terms with family and growing up. We flip from life now, and trying to make new connections with parents and sisters, as well as dealing with today. Still in pain from the suicide of his best friend, still fleeing from the hills of TN, yet not able to shake off those roots either. Facing the alcoholism in the family, and seeking to understand what it is that runs through the blood. These are just a touch of the deep and dark issues which run through this zine. The writing is intense and beautiful, fascinating

TERRA INFIRMA-VITA OBSCURA #5 (\$2 US, \$3 World, or trade/Skorn the Viking c/o 709 Middlebury Rd/ Webster, NY 14580 www.terra-obscura.com) An agnostic look into the supernatural featuring strange personal experiences with shadowy figure, info on traditions and rituals, folktales, and DIY ghost hunting. This is rad! Skorn takes a pragmatic view of supernatural phenomena but is enthusiastic about the subject. For example, ghosts may or may not exist, but it is a hell of a lot of fun to go ghost hunting! This is funny, a tad creepy, and boasts a killer copy/cover—check it out. (jersey)

THE PUTANG INA MO #4 (free/ turbocore@lycos.com / www.GranPeligro.tk ("for blind dates and S&M videos, etc.)) Enthusiastic, if not that exciting, cut/paste zine from Jay in the Philippines. 3 pages with and cover, this shortly interviews Dead Chretiens (drunk punk, Canadian version) and Fecal Forces zine from Croatia. The last page is a show review. I'm not too into this, but respect to the worldwide DIY view. (jersey)

FLUKE #6 (3 stamps, trade, or donations/ 415 N. Park Avenue/ Tucson, AZ 85719 USA/ flooke@yahoo.com) Intro: "A lot has happened in my life. This tells a story of those years. I am not a poet and this is not poetry." This mix of photos and not-poems has a nice feel to it and I rather enjoyed reading it—trying to picture the life the not-poems were telling us about. Relationships, life, friends, choices. Some of the lines and rhymes are less than, but, overall, I recommend Fluke. (jersey)

THE COALITION ZINE #1 (RM 2/ \$2-4 U.S./ Fazri B783 Bangol Limau/ 21200 Kuala Terengganu/Terengganu, Malaysia/ dsra76@yahoo.com or Nizang/911-ALorongKenangan Jalan Sultan Mahmud/ 20400 Kuala Terengganu/Malaysia/ Kalangcatmagik@hotmail.com) The cover says "April 2003", so e-mail first, if you can. I love getting zines from around the world and this collective effort was enjoyable. Columns by various punks covering state funds and schools, punks stereotypes/fashion punk, dress codes for libraries, cops, and more. 2002 Indonesian scene report and one from St. Petersburg, Russia. Interviews with 18 Valencia (local garage punk), The Jhai Alai (Singapore hardcore), and Second Combat (Malaysia). Record and zine reviews. This was cool, hope it is still going. (jersey)

THE ALARM #1 (Free/ 1301 Richmond Apt: U9/Houston, TX 77006 / alarm@riseup.net) A collection of introductions to radical/progressive groups in the Houston, TX area, from Chicano/a Student Alliance to Indymedia to feminist, environmental and other groups. This is organized under affiliation to the People's Global Action network. If you're in, or interested in, Houston, check it out. (jersey)

THE EAST VILLAGE INKY #26 (\$2/ Ayun Halliday/ PO box 3275/ Brooklyn NY 11202 / www.AyunHalliday.com) It's been awhile since I've read an Inky cause I've been passing recent issues onto a mom friend who I know appreciates reading these onto one

issue as she spends most of this issue telling stories about her travels. Her and a friend get away from the kids and go to Mexico for a luxurious vacation on the beach. And then Ayun and Greg head over to Berlin for some theater business and fun, and ultimately Ayun and Inky end up in LA for her friends wedding. Even when the kids are faraway, they're still in the stories (that is kinda what the zine is about after all) and I suppose that is kinda what it's like being a parent as well. This is a great issue. It's totally manic and full of wacky hi-jinx and non-stop energy and stories are full of adrenaline and craziness. It's kinda cool to see the shift from toddler to 7 year old and the different relationship that has between mother and daughter. Inky is a character as always and Ayun is eternally a fantastic writer. And by the way, she has another book out now called "Job Hopper" which I have yet to read, but is about all the crappy day jobs she's had whilst trying to "do her own thing." Can't we almost all relate? Recommended as always. (jersey)

THE JUNIPER #3 (stamp/Dan Murphy/PO Box 6352/ Boise ID 83707 / messylephant@hotmail.com) This is a cool little newsletter about simple living - as in getting down with soil and trying to minimize the impact on the earth, planting food in the

proudly tend to it and ask after it - nothing child-like about that, and if it is, then embrace it). There's an extensive article on soil with footnotes and science background. And some other bits, like a seed starting plan and early spring garden planning (we're well into spring now), and some positive things about keeping chickens around as friends. I like this zine and I look forward to its continued editions. (-Chris)

THE NEW SCHEME #11 (free/ PO Box 7542/boulder CO 80306-7542) This is mostly an interview zine. The bands featured in this issue are Breather Resist, Q and Not You, The Good Life, Traindodge, Joan of Arc and even more. There are also a couple of opinion pieces about the President being reelected and press sheets which if you write reviews you will probably find amusing. There are actually quite a lot of reviews in this. The format is newsprint and typical magazine size. If you like the featured bands you should find and get this. (european)

THE URBAN HERMITT #20 (\$3/PO Box 460412/SF CA 94146) Ah, yes. One of my favorite zines and it's back to reading like the zine I remember. Sarcastic and cynical though, with age. Hermitt is a transsexual post opp queer man, and has since stopped trying to "figure it all out". Now the stories are being told in about working in a troubled teen facility in SF and the horrors of one night's shift gone totally wrong. He writes about visiting the parents in the suburbs and about learning multi-tasking in the coffee shop work environment. We also learn a bit about the neighborhood and the whack neighbors who are constantly screaming up at Jose, though exactly why, and who Jose is, none of us have yet quite figured out. This starts out with a story about growing up fat and going to weight watchers with dad, and pre-teen pain and angst. I really enjoyed this issue. It's bitter, but with a twist of ironic humor and all the stories are told with a totally manic style that makes it hard to pull away from. (-Chris)

TRYING ON HATS #1 (\$1.25/ Jennifer Farley/ PO Box 471159/ Ft. Worth, TX 76147 / Buffy2473@charter.net) The letter that accompanied this little quarter sized zine describes it as 'an edgy perzine containing essays about my life and attitudes toward society'. I guess I can see where the author is coming from, but I didn't find it edgy...just really bitter. That could just be my age talking, of course. I can remember reading this exact style of zine 10 years ago and being absolutely charged by it. Cut and paste w/computer layout, lists of annoying things/quotes/ random thoughts, personal tales, arty photos that seem to have been slightly digitally altered, poems and movie/book reviews. A solid & well done effort, it just didn't do anything for me personally. (-karoline)

TYRANNICIDE #1 (free or donation/ Letters of Blood and Fire Press/ 2925 Lawrence Dr./ Falls Church, VA 22402) Nicely printed anarchist journal in the Woodworthian tradition of "ethical anarchism". Tanq gives us a knowledgeable and accessible explanation of why anarchism, history, and government in the U.S. in "Forsaken Authoritarianism" that fills a lot of the zine. Despite the reliance on the Old Heads (Goldman, Kropotkin, etc.), this is timely and relevant and a solid introduction to anarchist principles. Includes contributions on fear vs. free societies, systematic harassment by the State, re-prints of Emma, and more. (jersey)

UNLESS INDICATED #5 1/2 size, 28 pages, (\$1+2 stamps or trade, PO Box 30117/Bakersfield, CA 9385) First, I've got a small piece of advice for every person who does a zine or wants to do a zine: if you don't want or can't take negative reviews, don't send your zine out for review. This issue opens with a review reprinted from Maximumrocknroll, which, although not good, offers constructive criticism for improvement. She also reprints a letter she sent to

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US AGAINST THEM #12 (\$2 or trade/ Mark/PMB 60-595 W. Main St./Norwich, CT 06360 / schollopy9000@yahoo.com) Punk cut/paste zine that re-prints a "guide to protesting" from the DIY Guide #2, interviews Matt from Cries of Pain records, laments consumerism in punk and elsewhere, has a contribution about alternatives to tampons, reviews, and an article about the Federal Emergency Man-

say that I was amused by the end of the intro where the author states 'write fiction and fight the tyranny of the personal zine' and then (to me, anyway) the zine (which is a fictitious story) reads just like a personal zine. The story centers around an apartment building in Louisville. Punks move in, punks move out. Punks scare new prospective tenants away. Punks get FUCKED up!! Old friends, new friends, jaded old timers, fresh young idealists and everything in between. The main themes are alienation and despair coupled with living hard and loving it. Bittersweet entertainment. Guaranteed to bring back all your punk house roommate memories from years gone by. Enjoyable. (-karoline)

WATCH THE CLOSING DOORS #30 (Fred Argoff/1800 Ocean Pkwy (#F-10)/ Brooklyn, NY 11223-3036) Fred Argoff is the master of urban studies of NY put into zine format. Here he is again with yet another issue of Watch the Closing Doors full of tons of information on the entire 5 Burroughs subway system. If you think this might be boring you are wrong. It's full of beautiful pictures of these giant urban worms and their lairs. There are all the usual and awesome features such as characters, overheard conversations, quiz's, tours, and just so much general information. The most interesting feature to me this issue was the small piece on Totenville (partially cause toten means death or something like that in German) which is a very small and scenic corner of NY on the southern most tip of Staten Island. But the picture of the Juicy Fruit Gum subway car in Sibera is also amazing. (european)

WHEN I SAW THE MONKEES/WHEN I SAW ELVIS SPLIT ZINE (1/4 size, 20 pages, \$1, maybe? Benn Ray c/o Atomic Books/1100 W. 36th St/Baltimore, MD 21211) This is a split comic zine, both halves are stories about being young and seeing a favorite performer in concert. Brian got to see the Monkees when he was five years old, and the comics look and read like he wrote it for his first grade "What I Did Over the Summer" assignment. Very crudely done. Benn got to see Elvis in 1977. It made me chuckle a couple of times. The drawing is pretty cartoon-y and fun. (dug)

WORD SALAD #2 (\$2/PO Box 66861/Portland, OR 97290-6861) "A Journal of Mental Health" with "Questions, New Directions, and Insurrections." Comyn compiles this anthology/personal and more zine dedicated to being, as he says in the intro, "a unique forum for people with questing and questioning minds to tell stories about their struggles with mental health issues and with the mental health system." Word Salad is a good project with honest writing, anger, and sharing and I can't recommend it enough. (jersey)



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Though is that here is not only someone I have known, but also a voice I can relate to even more than that of one on the shelf at the bookstore. This is one of our own that has a gift of storytelling that is just breathtaking. Tennessee is a transsexual who has transitioned from female to man, and there is writing about that in here, along with lots of coming to terms with family and growing up. We flip from life now, and trying to make new connections with parents and sisters, as well as dealing with today. Still in pain from the suicide of his best friend, still fleeing from the hills of TN, yet not able to shake off those roots either. Facing the alcoholism in the family, and seeking to understand what it is that runs through the blood. These are just a touch of the deep and dark issues, which run though this zine. The writing is intense and beautiful, fascinating and leaving you wanting to know more in some ways. While it's of a life on the edge of desperation, it's full of hope at the same time. And there is a chapter included from the Deliver Me From Nowhere, which is a novel written based on Bruce Springsteen's songs. Great stuff I tell you! I've cherished this zine since the day it arrived and it's the sort of writing that is so good, trying to describe it, or even review it makes me feel I pale in my ability to form words. And that is the sign of good writing, and a great zine! (-Chris)

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EAVES OF ASS #4 (\$2 or trade/ Craven Rock/PO Box 20692/Seattle, WA 98102/eavesofass@yahoo.com) I have to

recent issues onto a mom friend who I know appreciates reading these onto one

tales of motherhood. But I decided it was time to hold myself, and it was a good choice cause this issue is kinda like Ayun's breaking out from the homestead issue as she spends most of this issue telling stories about her travels. Her and a friend get away from the kids and go to Mexico for a luxurious vacation on the beach. And then Ayun and Greg head over to Berlin for some theater business and fun, and ultimately Ayun and Inky end up in LA for her friends wedding. Even when the kids are faraway, they're still in the stories (as that is kinda what the zine is about after all) and I suppose that is kinda what it's like being a parent as well. This is a great issue. It's totally manic and full of wacky hi-jinx and non-stop energy and stories are full of adrenaline and craziness. It's kinda cool to see the shift from toddler to 7 year old and the different relationship that has between mother and daughter. Inky is a character as always and Ayun is eternally a fantastic writer. And by the way, she has another book out now called "Job Hopper" which I have yet to read, but is about all the crappy day jobs she's had whilst trying to "do her own thing."

Can't we almost all relate? Recommended as always. (-Chris)

THE JUNIPER #3 (stamp/Dan Murphy/PO Box 6352/ Boise ID 83707 / messylephant@hotmail.com) This is a cool little newsletter about simple living - as in getting down with soil and trying to minimize the impact on the earth, planting food in the garden and thinking about getting 'back to the land'. Dan writes about his first garden, and how he haphazardly threw things together, watched it start to grow and then ultimately left for school before reaping the harvest. And then he was afraid to ask his parents how the garden grew (afraid to seem like a little kid, huh? If you plant a garden you should



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Rock/PO Box 20692/Seattle, WA 98102/eavesofass@yahoo.com) I have to

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Though is that here is not only someone I have known, but also a voice I can relate to even more than that of one on the shelf at the bookstore. This is one of our own that has a gift of storytelling that is just breathtaking. Tennessee is a transsexual who has transitioned from female to man, and there is writing about that in here, along with lots of coming to terms with family and growing up. We flip from life now, and trying to make new connections with parents and sisters, as well as dealing with today. Still in pain from the suicide of his best friend, still fleeing from the hills of TN, yet not able to shake off those roots either. Facing the alcoholism in the family, and seeking to understand what it is that runs through the blood. These are just a touch of the deep and dark issues, which run though this zine. The writing is intense and beautiful, fascinating and leaving you wanting to know more in some ways. While it's of a life on the edge of desperation, it's full of hope at the same time. And there is a chapter included from the Deliver Me From Nowhere, which is a novel written based on Bruce Springsteen's songs. Great stuff I tell you. I've cherished this zine since the day it arrived and it's the sort of writing that is so good, trying to describe it, or even review it makes me feel pale in my ability to form words. And that is the sign of good writing, and a great zine! (-Chris)

Even when the kids are far away, they'll still be in the stories (as that is kinda what the zine is about after all) and I suppose that is kinda what it's like being a parent as well. This is a great issue. It's totally manic and full of wacky hi-jinx and non-stop energy and stories are full of adrenaline and craziness. It's kinda cool to see the shift from toddler to 7 year old and the different relationship that has between mother and daughter. Inky is a character as always and Ayun is eternally a fantastic writer. And by the way, she has another book out now called "Job Hopper" which I have yet to read, but is about all the crappy day jobs she's had whilst trying to "do her own thing." Can't we almost all relate? Recommended as always. (-Chris)

THE JUNIPER #3 (stamp/Dan Murphy/PO Box 6352/ Boise ID 83707 / messylephant@hotmail.com) This is a cool little newsletter about simple living - as in getting down with soil and trying to minimize the impact on the earth, planting food in the garden and thinking about getting 'back to the land'. Dan writes about his first garden, and how he haphazardly threw things together, watched it start to grow and then ultimately left for school before reaping the harvest. And then he was afraid to ask his parents how the garden grew (afraid to seem like a little kid, huh? If you plant a garden you should



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It appears that some of the constructive criticism was taken into account, because this issue is pretty good. There are very personal accounts of mental disorder, family trouble, racial prejudice in the U.S., and teaching sign language to babies. There's an interview with Poor and Forgotten, and a few pages of zine reviews, all of which are very nice. (dig)

US AGAINST THEM #12 (\$2 or trade/ Mark/PMB 60595 W. Main St./Norwich, CT 06360 / schollopy9000@yahoo.com) Punk cut/paste zine that re-prints a "guide to protesting" from the DIY Guide #2, interviews Matt from Cries of Pain records, laments consumerism in punk and elsewhere, has a contribution about alternatives to tampons, reviews, and an article about the Federal Emergency Management Agency and their evil reason for existence. I can do without re-prints, but this is worthwhile for the punks. (jersey)

EAVES OF ASS #4 (\$2 or trade/ Craven

US/PO Box 20692/Seattle, WA 98102/eavesofass@yahoo.com) I have to say that this is one of the best zines I've seen. It appears that some of the constructive criticism was taken into account, because this issue is pretty good. There are very personal accounts of mental disorder, family trouble, racial prejudice in the U.S., and teaching sign language to babies. There's an interview with Poor and Forgotten, and a few pages of zine reviews, all of which are very nice. (dig)

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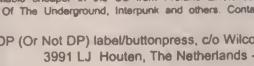
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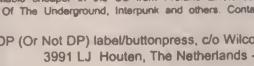


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MUSIC REVIEWS

400 BLOWS - ANGEL'S TRUMPETS & DEVIL'S TROMBONES CD. I really like this CD musically, but the vocals really put me off of the record as a whole. Musically, they are heavy and crunchy like The Melvins, Karp, Lightening Bolt, and stuff like that. The vocals, on the other hand, remind me of that guy from the Crucifucks; they're pretty annoying and totally lack any kind of punch or emotion of any kind. (Gold Standard Labs, P.O. Box 65091, Los Angeles, CA 90065 / www.goldstandardlabs.com) (-TNT)

A PERFECT MURDER - REHEARSAL CD I'm a total sucker for the power packed mosh-a-ton of metal hardcore, when it's done right. From the first note I could tell that this was a band that did it the way I liked it. They're from Canada and follow in a line of Canadian SxH that has been good. So I'm digging the power, and then the Metallica riff comes in and I'm thinking how you can not conceal a Metallica riff from me, before I realize that this isn't just a riff, this is an entire 10 minute medley of Metallica songs. I found myself laughing and loving it. It got me thinking about how cool it was to hear a HC band drawing from Metallica and thinking about how there are those who do Metallica and then the rest who do Slayer. And what should happen after that 10 minute Metallica worship, but a cover of "Season's in the Abyss" and I think I about lost my mind. Usually a CD that is full of covers like this is a filler release that comes between full lengths and it often feels like trying to hard, but not this time. This is a first release and it feels fucking amazing. If the Metallica and Slayer wasn't enough, they also have a Black Sabbath rifle song. But in the midst of all of that, they've got a couple of their own songs, which are absolutely perfect. The vocals are prominent here growing voice throwing power which overtop of the power packed chugging guitars makes for an intense combo, not unexpected, but when it's right it's so fucking good. I'm stoked on this!! (Cyclop Media/16 de Charon Levis' Quebec G6V 7X5 Canada) (-Chris) ****

Against Me! - Sink, Florida Sink 7" This little record features two alternate takes from As the Eternal Cowboy. Side A features an electric version of "Sink, Florida Sink." The B-side has an electric version of "Unsubstantiated Rumors." There is definitely a reason why they went with the versions that they used for the LP, but completionists will definitely want this. It's worth the four bucks for the die-cut cover which features a gingerbread man dismembering another gingerbread man. Mad cookie-on-cookie violence, complete with jimmySprinkle (depending on where you're from) bloodbath. (No Idea Records, P.O. Box 14636, Gainesville, FL 32604 / www.noidearecords.com) (-TNT)

ALLEE DER KOSMOSAUTEN - ST LP It's no secret that like the heavy music, it also like the dark apocalyptic end of the world crushing power that has come out in German hardcore and European crust in recent years. I'm also nuts about female vocals. So my favorite label has once again brought a gem into my hands. Yet this is a different spin on it because in addition to the heaviness, the power, the intensity, the dual male/female vocals and the crusty brutalness of this band, they also have a whole other dimension and take the weaving melodies to the next step. This has more than epic qualities of building frantic pummeling crunch, and then it gets totally quiet and melo with rather beautiful melodies. With just 4 songs on this LP vinyl, it takes on a scope like that of Neurosis or Isis, while reminding me of the last Counterblast double LP a bit. Epic, ethereal and crushingly beautiful at the same time. (Unsociable/PoBox 105824/28058 Bremen/Germany / www.unsociable.net) (-Chris)

ANODYNE - LIFETIME OF GRAY SKIES Upon listening to this I immediately thought that fans of bands like Meatjack and Kehaul would thoroughly enjoy and savor the heavy guitar affectations. Arduous time signatures provide the routing for mathy metal shards that fucking pulverize and purr. Hellish hollering of brainy wordsmithery drives the pedal to the metal as this heavy hauler plows down all in its path. Rife with intensity and crushing ferocity, this junkyard dog latches on to your jugular and doesn't let up until your limp and lifeless on the carpet. Definitely not tunage for the puddin' pants or the milk toast. (LEVEL PLANE / www.levelplane.com) (-Johnny)

ANTIGAMA - Discomfort CD Here we have the re-release of the "Discomfort" CD originally released on Extremist records (USA). The layout of this version is much better, on the original release you couldn't see anything, it was all so dark. Hailing from Poland Antigama plays Hi-Tech Grindcore in the vein of Pig Destroyer, w/ touch of Cephalic Carnage, but not as crazy, although very Tech, and original tight music. High screamy vocals, mixed w/ a Phobia sounding deep vocal. CD includes 2 bonus tracks not available on the 1st release + multimedia track "Flies". (www.selfmadegod.com) (Barrett)

ARE YOU FUCKING SERIOUS? - CD This is the local Richmond band that plays the shows for most of the bands that come through town that I get to see. Which is kinda to say that they're the closest thing to my musical tastes locally. They play fast crazy hardcore punk, in short last song fashion. The vocals are recorded with a good amount of distortion, which sounds cool on the recording. I find it hard to describe them in a concise way. They're full of energy and speed that isn't really too heavy or metallic at all, but they're not melodic either. This CD was handed to me last time they played and it's a CDR put into a folded up piece of matte board that is spray painted with their name which you can barely read. I love their name by the way. There are 4 songs and then 3 more live songs. There are no lyrics, but their songs are about skating, shitty GMO foods, and such. Like a blast of raw punk fury this is. They've changed line-up recently and keep on playing often, which is good! (laserhounds@earthlink.net) (-Chris)

ASDELF BICYCLE TOUR 2004-ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONS CD This is weird acoustic music with blues elements. I'm not sure what I can really say about this besides that so I'm not going to. (Teraphile P.O. Box 317741 Cincinnati OH 45231) (european)

AVERSION - WHERE MAN FEAR TO TREAD CD Ah yes, this is for me. Heavy metallic crusty punk with weaving guitar melodies and raw brutal female screamed vocals. The vocal style is harsh and the lyrics are dark and somber. The drop tuning on the guitars give this a heavy crunchy power. The drums pummel at a good pace

A new favorite to hang out aside of the likes of FAR, Tragedy and Wolfbrigade, without sounding like any of them, just keeping good company with even more of a metallic, Swedish death metal and melodic hybrid. Damn, this is good and only gets better and more addictive the more I listen. Fucking Sweden, I love that country. (Not Enough Records/Mailbox 1013/Lilla Kungsgatan 2/411 41 GBG Sweden / www.aversion.it) (-Chris) ****

AYIN-ROCK 'N ROLL KILLED

MY BABY 7" Wow this band has an eclectic sound that makes me want to just start rattling off comparisons and influences but there are too many. Just a few are Joy Division, The Faint, Devo, The Anniversary, etc.. I could go on all day. They are a bass heavy rock band that plays a collage of styles. One second it sounds new wave, then punk, then indie rock and so on. But when AYIN put this all together it comes off totally fresh, original, and full of style and energy. There is a wacky Big Black cover on this as well. The packaging is very nicely silk screened. (Thrownbrick/PO Box 4831 Lou KY 40204/ thrownbrick.cjb.net) (european)

BACK WHEN-SWORDS AGAINST THE FATHER 7" This is Blistering, heavy, metallic hardcore. From blast beats to breakdowns it's all furious. The drummer in this band is a machine (in a good way) changing tempos and playing all types of crazy beats. The guitars so easily glide from metallic solos to stoner rock riffs, to fast paced hardcore, to chugga chugga breakdowns and it all works to make a pretty brutal whole. The lyrics seem to tell some sort of cryptic fantasy story but that's more of a guess statement. The artwork and layout and super pretty. (Init Records/PO Box 871/Sioux Falls, SD 57101-871 / initrecords.com) (european)

BALATONIZER - Occluded in Ohitus CD Very cool CD, I haven't heard of this band before, and I love hearing new bands! Hailing from Italy Balatonizer play Brutal Fucking Death Metal/Goregrind! 32 tracks of sick 30 sec. to 1 minute long songs. sick guttural growls, pounding drums w/ blistering speed. CD comes w/ mini-comic strip featuring the art of Guitarrist Marco Falta (comic artist for Marvel Comics Europe). Over all a great Brutal Death Metal release!!! (www.balatonizer.com / www.devildollrecords.com) (Barrett)

BALLAST - SOUND ASLEEP CD

When I first heard them I lost my mind. When I knew there was a new full length I was so excited. This is an amazing record from an amazing band that really stands out. This has grown on me to the point that I cannot stop listening. They blend together hard driving punk, melody, harmony, great timing changes, rad female vocals with gruffer back up dual vocals. Spoke's vocals are totally amazing. She's got this strong throaty way of singing that is also crystal clear and well sung at the same time in a way that makes me reel. Lyrically this is very liberating—about fighting back, standing up and surviving in a bleak world. I know that this is a very political and socially conscious DIY band, bringing a good association back to PC. Sometimes this is melodic in a way of older peace punk and makes me think of UK bands like Dan or Sota Head. But then they also have so much power and drive and intensity that this is hardly melo or melodic in the overall. The raging rhythms pummel forth with heavy hard driving fury. And the timing changes and energy and tempo variations make this fall into the category of masterpiece. Solid through and through, this album keeps you on your toes with a super crazy catchy pace to incite, dance and get frantic to. The amount of variation is just amazing. Without being metallic they play heavy. Without getting bittersweet they can be melodic. And in the mixture of all of it they have created a sound and style that is absolutely amazing and has made a mark on our time. Somehow I feel like in my description, it sounds like I'm feeling lackluster, but the thing is I is. This CD

female sounding screams, perfectly blended into the grind! Most of you know their style by now, so if you're into Bath tub Shitter, you will not be disappointed w/ this slab of brutality! (Power It Up, Postfach 1114, 38156 Vechede, Germany / www.power-it-up.de) (Barrett)

BEHIND ENEMY LINES - THE GLOBAL CANNIBAL CD I've reviewed this as the CD on Tribal War and the LP self-released, and now PE has picked it up and re-issued it yet again, which is perfectly awesome. Behind Enemy Lines, is one of the best bands going today. Everything about this is dead on, spine-chilling and earth shattering. They fucking rock and knock you dead with intense political lyrics at the same time. Epic

and monumental, this record fucking shredds to perfection. Their sound is heavy and powerful beyond description with a thick distorted power and a wall of towering amps delivering metallic rage. They've come onto a masterful place here with layered vocals, and rhythmic weaving hooks that don't quit. Totally metal without compromising their undying punkness at all. The lyrics are epic and amazing detailed attacks on George and his government and politics, globalization, religion, choice, food, war and all the corrupt issues that plague the world. This is peace punk like you've never heard before. I love the way the vocals are all woven, layered and relentless to match the uncompromised attack of the wall of powered pummeling drums and guitar that weave hooks to get your skin standing on end. We're lucky to have bands this amazing around to inspire us and give us fuel. I like my metal, I like my peace punk and politics, and I love this group

of people and this band. I can't say enough good stuff about them, and this record it's like an anvil to knock you out or a wakeup call to light the spark and now it's a damn good time to get this kind of music. It's essential! And yes I do pretty much keep running the same review cause what I said then and say now is consistently the same cause I keep on loving this band. (Profane Existence/PO Box 8722/Mpls MN 55408) (-Chris) *****

BIG BUSINESS S/T EP Hearty chunks of thick monstrous riff-age glorious stomp about the ear canals as I crank the volume knob to the end zone. Alien voices echo throughout the dense fuzz waves, wet with throbbing, way down low, bass falness. Skin tight snare wrist lashing and well-timed cymbals a-crashing ride beside, and outside the raging swells.

God damn incredible songwriting and monstrous balls out delivery of the proverbial guitars or maybe the greenery I just smoked is really fucking good. You decide! (WANTAGE USA/PO Box 8681/Missoula, MT 59807 / www.wantageusa.com) (-Johny)

BLACK COBRA - DEMO CD

This is a cool 3 song demo of heavy power and stonertone grooves that rock. The stoneroom thing has gotten about as overdone as every other genre, but this is cool. The groove is repetitive, but far from a droner. Instead this has an awesome rock out pace to it. The vocals have the same sort of distortion as the guitar tones do, which brings to mind a St. Vitus, yet in this case cranked up a notch. In fact the vocal style reminds me much more of a discordant emo hardcore punk band, than a stoner rock doomb band, it that makes any sense. These 3 songs leave you wanting more. The CD comes with no info at all, which is too bad. But this is a duo of two people former members of Cavity and current member of 16, and if you follow the sludge, then that might tell you enough. Although I dig this way more than that would guarantee, if that makes any sense. This is hot! (Info@blackcobra.net / www.blackcobra.net) (-Chris)

BLACK MARKET FETUS - MIDWEST METAL MELTDOWN LP Just like the Six Weeks

CD by the same name, this album is crusty grinding metal at its finest. Totally shredding axe leads, demonic voxels, water color evil fetus artwork, and good old fashioned thrash/death metal riffing. Plus Nute is known to wear that nail studded arm band thing. Seriously metalheads closed and out alike will shred to this fit banning frenzy. The

strong political punk stance underneath the loud and hard exterior. Lyrically they're screaming about capitalism's effects on the environment, not police. Bill Gates, and fighting the system, and then they have reactionary songs about cock rock metalities, thrashing rioting and fucking shit up. Take away a touch of the rockin' guitars and this would be one of my favorites. As it is, this is still damn good and it's loud and mean as well. Solid heavy fucking punk rock attack. (Mass Productions/19 rue Malagut/ 35000 Rennes France / www.massprod.com) (-Chris)

BONGZILLA- APOGEE EP Do you like weed? Do you enjoy being thoroughly and often stoned out your gourd? Let me ask you another question—do you like thick, fuzzy feedback drenched sonic infusions? Whether you like to get high or not "Apogee" is another swell mindbender and skull fucker from the Bongzilla boys.

Choice sound samples in the mix of the 3 new tracks and 4 well-produced and thunderous live tracks. Got a contact buzz just listening to this god shit. (RELAPSE RECORDS/PO Box 2060/Upper Darby, PA 190082 / www.relapse.com) (-Johnny)

BOYCOT - TOTALBOYCOT 1995-2000 CD This is a discography, with 48 tracks from the past 10 years. This band is all over the place. They are pretty raw and straight forward, not a lot of distortion, especially on some of the earlier stuff. The recording quality fluctuates, dropping out on some tracks pretty bad. They mix in blasting grind with breakdown reggae bits (okay, once while holding the punk flag high throughout. Sometimes feeling very anarcho punk, and other times thrashing straight ahead. They're from Holland, but sometimes sound like they could be from the UK. This discography brings together a whole bunch of releases and splits from over the years with a thick booklet of lyrics and photos and such. Can you tell I'm not that moved? I like the later stuff much better, when things get a little heavy and solid in my opinion. (Angry Records / www.anglfire.com/~h/angry) (-Chris)

BREATHE IN - SELF-TITLED 7" This is Breathe In's follow up to their EP on Bridge Nine Records. It sounds to me like they have toughened up their sound a little bit from their previous effort. They bust out five fast, edgy hardcore songs in about six minutes—the way they should be played. I wholeheartedly recommend this. Can anyone tell me what's up with guys from cool European hardcore bands who rock mustaches? (Assault Records, P.O. Box 102514, 28025 Bremen, Germany / www.assaultrecords.com) (-TNT)

BURIED INSIDE - Chronoclast CD Buried Inside explode forth w/ their Relapse debut. Combining aggression w/ melody to create their own style of sleek, metallic hardcore. They further the progressive ideology of underground music. "Chronoclast's" monolithic breadth will take you by storm. Now, that's what it says on the back of this promo, in reality I hear some un-inspired, wanna play Ozfest, Melodic metal wanna be's, in the vein of Mastodon, Today is The Day, Dillinger Escape Plan, etc., (like your typical Relapse bands), now some of the riffs on the CD are pretty cool, but overall it's nothing you haven't heard before, from bands you wish you haven't heard before. (Relapse Records, PO Box 2060, Upper Darby, PA 190082 / www.relapse.com) (Barrett)

BUZZOVEN - WELCOME TO VIOLENCE CD Damn. It's been a long time, and in this regard the world has changed a lot in 15 years. When we're talking about Buzzoven, and how they fall into the punk world and the music sphere, things have indeed changed a lot. Record contracts and excessive drug use took it's toll. This is a collection of early material, before all that spiraled downward. These were the days when they were raw and they were totally at home playing in the basement of ABC NO RIO on a regular basis. It's hard to imagine that now if you weren't there, and it's hard to imagine remember even where you were there. That was a time when the subdivisions between musical genres were much more blurred and we all came together with a shared common denominator. Buzzoven played slow and heavy dirge like no one else, and along side of Grief, 13, and Eye/Hate God, Buzzoven made the rounds regularly. They brought these dirty riffs from the South up to us in the North and everyone got fucked up and had a time. Then the slow and heavy music scene got seriously into drugs, things changed, settled, some bands got really fucking popular, things changed some more. I forgot about Buzzoven, or rather I stopped listening to their music cause I just didn't relate or care. Like with so many other bands, the stuff that I liked, knew and listened to, all came out before they got popular and well known. So here is a CD for people like me to listen to and remember.

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CARDIAC ARREST - THE FIRST THREE MONTHS TAPE Blown out in your face hardcore in 15 movements that brings back memories of early 90s great like ECONOCHRIST, but with about 100 times more manic chaos. Personal political lyrics delivered with hyperactive venom...this is an all out surge of energy. Low distortion, in the early 80s way, and the drummer appears to be a full on maniac. I'm in like, and this is just a demo! (-Robert) (hate108@hotmail.com)

C.H.-NO SEAS COMO ELLOS 7" Fast, angry, political hardcore punk sung in Spanish. Apparently an ex member of this band plays in Huisingpano I didn't even think they were still together. Hailing from Colombia (the country not SC) C.H. have a raw sound that gives them more of an early eighties feel. Everything on this release is in Spanish and years of not paying attention means I can't understand most of what is being gruffly screamed and shouted here but I can tell by what I can make out and by the artwork that it's fiercely political. This is the first band from Colombia that I've ever heard but after that I'd certainly like the hear more. (sin temores/sintemores@yahoo.com) (european)

CHRISTIAN CLUB - \$1 EP High energy bare bones hardcore, the like of which you've surely heard before, and the likes of which you certainly need to hear again. "B My Sharon Tate," "1, 2 Kill You," and "Sorority House Massacre," are three of the six of the gems included on this slab. No slow parts, who the fuck needs 'em? That's what I thought. Mile a minute barking vocals that sound like they come from a frustrated 13 year old (in a good way), and the recording suits their frantic nature



Death By Excess
Oakland, CA 1/05



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Media To Do With Lewis' Sudden New *Van Halen* (Lions)

Against Me! - Sink, Florida Sink 7" This little record features two alternate takes from As The Eternal Cowboy. Side A features an electric version of "Sink, Florida Sink." The B-side has an electric version of "Unsubstantiated Rumors." There is definitely a reason why they went with the versions that they used for the LP, but completionists will definitely want this. It's worth the four bucks for the die-cut cover which features a gingerbread man disemboweling another gingerbread man. Mad cookie-on-cookie violence, complete with jimmy'sprinkle (depending on where you're from) bloodbath. (No Idea Records, P.O. Box 14636, Gainesville, FL 32604 / www.noidearecords.com) -TNT

ALLEE DER KOSMOSAUTEN - S/T LP It's no secret that I like the heavy music. I also like the dark apocalyptic end of the world crunching power that has come out in German hardcore and European crust in recent years. I'm also nutso about female vocals. So my favorite label has once again brought a gem into my hands. Yet this is a different spin on it because in addition to the heaviness, the power, the intensity, the dual male/female vocals and the crusty brutalism of this band, they also have a whole other dimension and take the weaving melodies to the next step. This has more than epic qualities of building frantic pummeling crunch, and then it gets totally quiet and mello with rather beautiful melodies. With just 4 songs on this LP vinyl, it takes on a scope like that of Neurosis or Isis, while reminding me of the last Counterblast double LP a bit. Epic, ethereal and crushingly beautiful at the same time. (Unsociable/P.O. Box 105824/28058 Bremen/Germany / www.unsociable.net/hellache@unsociable.net) (-Chris)

ANDYDINE - LIFETIME OF GRAY SKIES Upon listening to this I immediately thought that fans of bands like Meatjack and Keelhaul would thoroughly enjoy and savor the heavy guitar affectations. Arduous time signatures provide the routing for mathy metal shards that fucking pulverize and pummel. Hellish hollering of brainy wordsmithery drives the pedal to the metal as this heavy hauler plows down all in its path. Rife with intensity and crushing ferocity, this junkyard dog latches on to your jugular and doesn't let up until your limp and lifeless on the carpet. Definitely not torture for the puddin' pants or the milk toast. (LEVEL PLANE / www.level-plane.com) (-Johnny)

ANTIGAMA - Discomfort CD Here we have the re-release of the "Discomfort" CD originally released on Extremist records (USA). The layout of this version is much better, on the original release you couldn't see anything, it was all so dark. Hailing from Poland Antigama plays Hi-Tech Grindcore in the vein of Pig Destroyer, w/ touch's of Cephalic Carnage, but not as crazy, although very Tech. and original tight music. High scream vocal, mixed w/ a Phobia sounding deep vocal. CD includes 2 bonus tracks not available on the 1st release + multimedia track "Flies". (www.selfmadegod.com) (Barrett)

ARE YOU FUCKING SERIOUS - CD This is the local Richmond band that plays the shows for most of the bands that come through town that I get to see. Which is kinda to say that they're the closest thing to my musical tastes locally. They play fast crazy hardcore punk, in short fast song fashion. The vocals are recorded with a good amount of distortion, which sounds cool on the recording. I find it hard to describe them in a concise way. They're full of energy and speed that isn't really too heavy or metallic at all, but they're not melodic either. This CD was handed to me last time they played and it's a CD put into a folded up piece of matte board that is spray painted with their name which you can barely read. I love their name by the way. There are 4 songs and then 3 more live songs. There are no lyrics, but their songs are about skating, shitty GMO foods, and such. Like a blast of raw punk fury this is. They've changed line-up recently and keep on playing often, which is good! (laserhounds@earthlink.net) (-Chris)

AS'DEFL BICYCLE TOUR 2004-ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONS CD This is weird acoustic music with blues elements. I'm not sure what I can really say about this besides that so I'm not going to. (Terraphile P.O. Box 317741/ Cincinnati, OH 45231) (european)

AVERSION - WHERE MAN FEAR TO TREAD CD Ah yes, this is for me. Heavy metallic crusty punk with weaving guitar melodies and raw brutal female screamed vocals. The vocal style is harsh and the lyrics are dark and somber. The drop tuning on the guitars give this a heavy crunchy power. The drums pummel at a good pace while the guitars crunch and rage, weave and swoon, and propel the momentum ever on, while also having a lighter melodic quality worked in. Melodic isn't really appropriate though, cause this is dark and apocalyptic music for a dying world. But if you've been digging on the current world of Swedish hardcore punk, and the US and Canadian bands who draw on the style, then you know what I mean about crushing and melodic overlapping and you also know if you'll love this as much as me. The vocal style is where the most harshness comes from. I love this band!!!

skunkcreek (brownie) / Lou, KY 40204/ brownbrick.cjb.net) (european)

BACK - WHEN-SWORDS AGAINST THE FATHER 7" This is Blistering, heavy, metallic hardcore. From blast beats to breakdowns it's all furious. The drummer in this band is a machine (in a good way) changing tempos and playing all types of crazy beats. The guitars so easily glide from metallic solos to stoner rock riffs, to fast paced hardcore, to chugga chugga breakdowns and it all works to make a pretty brutal whole. The lyrics seem to tell some sort of cryptic fantasy story but that's more of a guess statement. The artwork and layout and super pretty. (Int Records/P.O. Box 871/Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0871 / intrecords.com) (european)

BALATONIZER - Occluded In Ottusity CD Very cool CD, I haven't heard of this band before, and I love hearing stuff! Hailing from Italy Balatonizer play Brutal Fucking Death Metal-Goregrind! 32 tracks of sick 30 sec. to 1 minute long songs. sick guttural growls, pounding drums w/ blistering speed. CD comes w/ mini-comic strip featuring the art of Guitarrist Marco Failla (comic artist for Marvel Comics Europe). Over all a great Brutal Death Metal release!!! (www.balatonizer.com / www.devildollrecords.com) (Barrett)

BALLAST - SOUND ASLEEP CD When I first heard them I lost my mind. When I knew there was a new full length I was so excited. This is an amazing record from an amazing band that really stands out. This has grown on me to the point that I can not stop listening. They blend together hard driving punk, melody, harmony, great timing changes, and tematic vocals with gruffer back up dual vocals. Spoke's vocals are totally amazing. She's got this strong throaty way of singing that is also crystal clear and well sung at the same time in a way that makes me reel. Lyrically this is very liberating—about fighting back, standing up and surviving in a bleak world. I know that this is a very political and socially conscious DIY band, bringing a good association back to PC. Sometimes this is melodic in a way of older peace punk and makes me think of UK bands like Dan or Sos Head. But then they also have so much power and drive and intensity that this is hardly melodic or melodic in the overall. The raging rhythms pummel forth with heavy hard driving fury. And the timing changes and energy and tempo variations make this fall into the category of masterpiece. Solid through and through, this album keeps you on your toes with a super crazy catchy pace to incite, dance and get frantic to. The amount of variation is just amazing. Without being melodic, they play heavy. Without getting bitter sweet they can be melodic. And in the mixture of all of them have created a sound and style that is absolutely amazing and has made a mark on our time. Somehow I feel like in my description, it sounds like I'm feeling lackluster, but the truth of it is this CD is one of my top faves period of the year. This is one of the best bands going - the kind of band I get fully behind and I can not stop listening to this!! It's that good!! (Profane Existence/P.O. Box 8722/Mpls MN 55408) (-Chris) *****

BATHTUB SHITTER - Wall Of World Is Words CD Ahhh, here's a breath of fresh air! Japan's brutal grindcore powerhouse have finally released another CD. Staying in tradition w/ all their previous releases, they stay true to some sick intense crust influenced Deathgrind, vocals ranging from Brutal guttural growls, to high almost makes any sense. These 3 songs leave you wanting more. The CD comes with no info at all, which is too bad. But this is a duo of two people former members of Cavity and current member of 16, and if you follow the sludge, then that might tell you enough. Although I dig this way more than that would guarantee, if that makes any sense. This is hot! (Info@blackcobra.net / www.blackcobra.net) (-Chris)

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BONEHOUSE - THE FUSE IS LIT CD This starts out from the first note amped to the max, heavy, rockin' and harsh. The vocals are gruff and deep, the music is heavy and driven by seriously rockin' guitars which include classic leads. They pummel forth with incredible speed and power. Kinda reminds me of some of the Swedish bands that got pretty metal and rock later in their years. Bonehouse are from Germany, and have a



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from their previous effort. They don't live fast, they live long. I wholeheartedly recommend this. Can anyone tell me what's up with guys from cool European hardcore bands who rock mustaches? (Assault Records, P.O. Box 102514, 28025 Bremen, Germany / www.assaultrecords.com) -TNT

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CHRISTIAN CLUB - s/t EP High energy bare bones hardcore, the like of which you've surely heard before, and the likes of which you certainly need to hear again. "Be My Sharon Tate," "1, 2, Kill You," and "Sorority House Massacre," are three of the six of the gems included on this slab. No slow parts, who the fuck needs 'em? That's what I thought. Mile a minute barked vocals that sound like they come from a frustrated 13 year old (in a good way), and the recording suits their frantic nature perfectly. "Night Of The Demons" is in my top 3 songs of the day (a very select list indeed)...this will be even better when I'm wasted. (-Robert) (Get Revenge, 4118 Florida Street, San Diego, CA 92140)

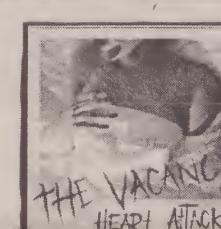
CLOCKCLEANER-THE HASSSLER Debut disk from these Philly folk who obviously have an intense lust for the band Big Black and worship at the throne of Albini which isn't bad per say but not altogether original either. Crisp, chugging bass lines and dissonant guitar wash provide a sound scape for snide and sarcastic word play with



Death By Excess Oakland, CA 1/05

A-F Records

PO Box 71266
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
www.a-frecords.com



music. High screamy vocals, mixed w/ a Phobia sounding deep vocal. CD includes 2 bonus tracks not available on the 1st release + multimedia track "Fries". (www.selfmadegod.com) (Barrett)

ARE YOU FUCKING SERIOUS? CD This is the local Richmond band that plays the shows for most of the bands that come through town that I get to see. Which is kinda to say that they're the closest thing to my musical tastes locally. They play fast crazy hardcore punk, in short fast song fashion. The vocals are recorded with a good amount of distortion, which sounds cool on the recording. I find it hard to describe them in a concise way. They're full of energy and speed that isn't really too heavy or metallic at all, but they're not melodic either. This CD was handed to me last time they played and it's a CDR put into a folded up piece of matte board that is spray painted with their name which you can barely read. I love their name by the way. There are 4 songs and then 3 more live songs. There are no lyrics, but their songs are about skating, shitty GMO foods, and such. Like a blast of raw punk fury this is. They've changed line-up recently and keep on playing often, which is good! (laserhound@earthlink.net) (-Chris)

ASDELF BICYCLE TOUR 2004-ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONS CD This is weird acoustic music with blues elements. I'm not sure what I can really say about this besides that so I'm not going to. (Terraphile PO Box 317741/ Cincinnati OH 45231) (europan)

AVERSION - WHERE MAN FEAR TO TREAD CD Ah yes, this is for me. Heavy metallic crusty punk with weaving guitar melodies and raw brutal female screamed vocals. The vocal style is harsh and the lyrics are dark and somber. The drop tuning on the guitars give this a heavy crunchy power. The drums pummel at a good pace while the guitars crunch and rage, weave and swoon, and propel the momentum ever on, while also having a lighter melodic quality worked in. Melodic isn't really appropriate though, cause this is dark and apocalyptic music for a dying world. But if you've been digging on the current world of Swedish hardcore punk, and the US and Canadian bands who draw on the style, then you know what I mean about crushing and melodic overlapping and you also know if you'll love this as much as me. The vocal style is where the most harshness comes from. I love this band!!!

lyrically, great for my changes, but female vocals with gruffer back up dual vocals. Spoke's vocals are totally amazing. She's got this strong throaty way of singing that is also crystal clear and well sung at the same time in a way that makes me reel. Lyrically this is very liberating—about fighting back, standing up and surviving in a bleak world. I know that this is a very political and socially conscious DIY band, bringing a good association back to PC. Sometimes this is me-

lodic in a way of older peace punk and makes me think of UK bands like Dan or Sofa Head. But then they also have so much power and drive and intensity that this is hardly mello or melodic in the overall. The raging rhythms pummel forth with heavy hard driving fury. And the timing changes and energy and tempo variations make this fall into the category of masterpiece. Solid through and through, this album keeps you on your toes with a super crazy catchy pace to incite, dance and get frantic to. The amount of variation is just amazing. Without being metallic, they play heavy. Without getting bitter sweet they can be melodic. And in the mixture of all of it they have created a sound and style that is absolutely amazing and has made a mark on our time. Somehow I feel like in my description, it sounds like I'm feeling lackluster, but the thing of it is this CD is one of my top faves period of the year. This is one of the best bands going - the kind of band I get fully behind and I can not stop listening to this! It's that good!!! (Profane Existence/PO Box 8722/ Mpls MN 55408) (-Chris) *****

BATHTUB SHITTER- Wall Of World Is Words CD Ahhh, here's a breath of fresh air! Japan's brutal grindcore powerhouse have finally released another CD. Staying in tradition w/ all their previous releases, they stay true to some sick intense crust influenced Deathgrind, vocals ranging from Brutal guttural growls, to high almost

makes any sense. These 3 songs leave you wanting more. The CD comes with no info at all, which is too bad. But this is a duo of two people former members of Cavity and current member of 16, and if you follow the sludge, then that might tell you enough. Although I dig this way more than that would guarantee, if that makes any sense. This is hot! (Info@blackcobra.net/ www.blackcobra.net) (-Chris)

BLACK MARKET FETUS - MIDWEST METAL MELTDOWN LP Just like the Six Weeks CD by the same name, this album is crusty grinding metal at its finest. Totally shredding ax leads, demonic voxils, water color evil fetus artwork, and good old fashioned thrash/death metal riffing. Plus Nate is known to wear that nail studded arm band thing. Seriously, metalheads closeted and out alike will shred to this fit banging frenzy. The punk might like it as well. (-Robert) (First Blood Family, PO Box 1104, Portland, OR 97211)

BONEHOUSE - THE FUSE IS LIT CD This starts out from the first note amped to the max, heavy, rockin' and harsh. The vocals are gruff and deep, the music is heavy and driven by seriously rockin' guitars which include classic leads. They pummel forth with incredible speed and power. Kinda reminds me of some of the Swedish bands that got pretty metal and rock later in their years. Bonehouse are from Germany, and have a

thing that's gotten about as overdone as every other genre, but this is cool. The groove is repetitive, but far from a droner. Instead this has an awesome rock out pace to it. The vocals have the same sort of distortion as the guitar tones do, which brings to mind St. Vitus, yet in this case cranked up a notch. In fact the vocal style reminds me much more of a discordant emo hardcore punk band, than a stoner rock doom band, if that makes any sense. These 3 songs leave you wanting more. The CD comes with no info at all, which is too bad. But this is a duo of two people former members of Cavity and current member of 16, and if you follow the sludge, then that might tell you enough. Although I dig this way more than that would guarantee, if that makes any sense. This is hot! (Info@blackcobra.net/ www.blackcobra.net) (-Chris)

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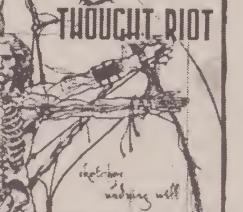
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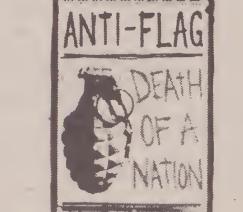
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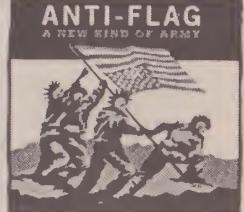
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Watch for big things from A-F Records including a new website featuring an audio store filled with rare and exclusive mp3s, and some exciting new releases.

COMEBACK KID - Wake Up The Dead CD First, record label (esp for hardcore releases). HC is not Britney Spears or Jessica Simpson - HC fans tend to already know what they're fans of - and shouldn't a sticker to tell them something will be 'good' or not. This has a big (as in GIGANTIC) sticker across the front of it stating it is some second coming of Christ or something?? How about we let the FANS decide if a release is the best hardcore record of 2000 instead of the label telling us so? Anyways, this is decent, with a Suicide File feel to it, with melody & mosh going hand-in-hand, though sometimes the melody got too melodic for me. This is their 2nd full length. (Victory Records, 346 N. Justine, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60607 www.victoryrecords.com) (Dave)

CONELRAD-A FINAL DISSOLUTION 12 succinct blasts of feral frenetic energy that will blaze through your skull and rattle your rib box. Wild guitar freak-outs sprout up and all the place as you are suddenly thrown an exploding pipe bomb of grinded metal shard and then battered about the head and ears with thick, bottom heavy thuds and chuds! Honestly great vocals wail through some intensively weird time trickery as insane loops and noises bedazzle and befuddle the brain. Yes, all this and a bag of smarts from a wise and maniacal duo that really rocked my ragged ass raw. I fucking love this sick shit!! Love is not too strong word, either! Dig? (NEW ADDITION MEDIA/ PO Box 81162/ Pittsburgh, PA 15217 / www.newadditionmedia.com) (-Johnny)

COUNTERPOISE - LEST WE FORGET CD This band apparently played for a while back in the 90's and this is a collection of a bunch of their recordings. They play a crusty Americanized version of UK peace punk. They lyrics are super political from an Anarchist perspective. This band reminds of the Peace punk bands in Baltimore during the 90's like Coexist & AP/Political at least in spirit if not exactly in sound. You can tell that this music came from a generation of punks that were more literally politically conscious and I like that it makes me think back to that. (Terraphile PO Box 31774/ Cincinnati OH 45231) (european)

COWBOYS IN BONDAGE - THE COMPLETELY SILLY DISCOGRAPHY CD I've only heard the track "Domestic Battlefield" up to now, via an old Slipside compilation, but Burrito has presented the whole damn shit here, and I'm left wishing I had GAY COWBOYS IN BONDAGE in high school. One demo, one EP and a live set here, in 34 tracks that bring to mind the gloriousness of THE DEAD MILKMEAN, not to mention the musicianship (note: THE MILKMEAN can fucking play their asses off, whether they were singing about poop or not). Total "I don't give a shit" punk rock from south Florida clean cut kids. "Big Fat Baloney Sandwich," "Cheddar Cheese Party," "A Funny Red Moustache," and the Dr. Demento classic "manaman" are all represented here, and it can be yours for only \$6ppd. (-Robert) (Burrito Records, PO Box 3204 Brandon, FL 33509)

CREAMABUL BABAR-COVERING THE TRACK MARKS I am usually not sold on an all covers record but this band is really fucking awesome. I may be a bit biased in my review, as I am a fan after seeing them live and hearing their other records but who cares? A choice selection of covers that range from Helmet to PJ Harvey that are done with a sweet tastiness and a wicked style that can't be touched. My favorites were the Mira song and the secret bonus track that sounds as though it is a live recording. Decadent sludginess, saucy electro-noise, and flavorful dissonance that made me wanna squirm with glee and dance like weirdo wired on glue and trucker speed. (UNDERADAR RECORDS/PO Box 1641/Seaford, NY 11783/www.underadar.com) (-Johnny)

CRIPPLER CROSS FACE- Where Did We Put That Dead Horse We've Been Beating CD Here we have a new ep from current & ex-members of Daughters, As The Sun Sets, Bury Your Dead, and What Feeds The Fire. We have a in your face grind assault! Songs are about 1 min. long each. Reminiscing of later Flesh Parade (more of the high screaming vocals, some deep growls), and you can hear a little Phobia influence in there but now where near as crushing. Weird semi-tech guitars in the mix, maybe even a little Discordance Axis influence. Fans of weird grindcore, check it out! (Urchin Music, 740 Ortona Ct., Winter Springs, FL 32708/www.urchininc.com) (Barrett)

this is a departure for my ears, but I like it even if some of the angst makes me a bit nutty. (DarkCity@darkcityrecords.org) 624 Lorimer St./Brooklyn NY 11211) (-Chris)

DEATH BY EXCESS - OUTNUMBERED CD I happened upon this band at an Oakland warehouse show in January and I lost my mind. I had a new instant favorite, completely captivated by the amazing vocals of Killery and the amazing driving catch heavy punk with chuggy rhythms of this intensely political band. Fuck yeah. I joke that I was singing love songs to them by the end of the night cause I was just so stoked. This 4 song demo CD is absolutely amazing and what I really like is that they stand out with a unique sound. They play hard-driving punk with a super catchy punchy style that is surprisingly devoid of metallic influence but still courts with the power and delivers the chuggy crunchy style I so love. The vocals are fucking amazing! Killery has vocal power and utilizes the range of her voice to both sing and yell and deliver the complex lyrics dealing with the government, war, military recruiters, gender roles and capitalism. I lose my mind every time I listen to this, gets super stoked, exciting and invigorating with inspiration and adrenalinized energy. I haven't heard a band like this in so long and what a refreshing treat it is! One of my total obsessions of the year. (PO Box 3148/ Oakland CA 94609/deathbyexcess@yahoo.com) (-Chris)

DEATH MOLD - \$7 CDR Here we have a 5 song CDR of complete Drop Dead worship! Even the vocals sound exactly the same as old Drop Dead (the shit I really like)!! More breakdowns though, songs are all about a minute long. I don't really know what else to say, if you like old Drop Dead you will love this shit!! I'm a little confused by the graphity logo! This CDR will eventually be a 7" once they find someone to release it, so if you're interested (Contact: deathmold@yahoo.com) (Barrett)

DESTRUX - ENTER THE THRASH KICK DEMO CD This is a cross between, well no

cross, this is thrash punk. The vocals are harsh and grating, but in a snotty high pitched way, that in conjunction with the music - in a most unusual way - can almost follow the words. The pitch and franticness of the vocals is almost a bit much for my ears. But the straightforward fast thrash style, devoid of all metal inclinations despite what the band name logo would lead you to believe, brings back the fast-core hardcore of the 80s. With the resurgence these days of 80s hardcore and thrash, I know many who will dig this both the thrashers as well as those who like it a bit more poppy and youthful, even though this is hardly poppy. I just can't think of any other time when I've thought of thrash as being not metal lately. However the lyrics bring to mind that youthful fun angle too - skating, thrashing the system, using hardcore to fight the war, mainstream media and skating, you get the picture. Smart posh skate kids, fighting back! This is fucking rad! (Blood Money Rec/ PO Box 241/Orland Park IL 60462 / bloodmoneydistro@yahoo.com) (-Chris)

DETONATORS - LIVE IN HOPE...EP See other review, as the songs are from the same session, the music is along the same lines (though these songs are slightly on the gruffer side), and the artwork is virtually identical. Formed in 1979, THE DETONATORS continued until the early 1990s, releasing several records along the way. Toured Europe with the mighty INSTIGATORS in 1986. The main dude plays in a marching band now, and it seems he still drags THE DETONATORS up from time to time. Excellent quality hardcore punk on this record, whether it was recorded in 1991, 1982, or today. (-Robert) (N.F.N. Records, www.freewbs.com/the_detonators)

DETONATORS - SONIC MANIFESTO EP Eugene via Los Angeles punks DETONATORS released two singles recently, both from one of the latest incarnations of the band, recorded in 1991. The four songs here could have easily been recorded earlier, and it would seem that THE DETONATORS maintained their fury quite well. Fast gruff hardcore punk that brings NOTA to mind, especially the vocals, although these songs are typically more basic. The angst of "Bastards" is unmistakable, and the recording quality is perfect for these songs. Not very familiar with the early stuff (I'm not old school enough, you know?), but if this is what they did at the END of their career, it would seem I need to seek it out. (-Robert) (N.F.N. Records, PO Box 10384, Eugene Oregon 97440)

F-SPACE-PRELIMINARY IMPACT REPORT CD This is some pretty heavy instrumental, by an ex-member of Man Is The Bastard and some other people. It's very industrial, with lots of noise, very tribal sounding drumming, and the occasional melodic psychedelic break out. This sounds like something that would fit very well in the Neurot records catalog. The imagery they're going for seems to have vague political allusions, but I don't personally endorse the offensive cover picture of a naked, rope-bound woman (Mobilization, Box 460951, San Francisco, CA 94146-0951) (Neal)

F.U.B.A.R-Justification Of Criminal Behaviour CD After a great split CD release w/ Catheter on Selfmadegod Records comes the debut full length CD from this sick grinding powerviolence band! Featuring a member of Suppository, FUBAR take 22 tracks and cram them straight down your throat! A non stop barrage of in your face

Myth of Progress - Oakland, CA 1/05

DIE SCREAMING - DEMO CD Okay, everyone should already know about my obsession beyond obsession with what started out as Aphasia, and is now known as Die Screaming, from Pittsburgh. This is the best! This new stuff is so beyond words amazing that it makes me totally crazy. First of all Chani has taken her operatic amazing vocal chords to the next level and is using that operatic command of her vocal power even more on this new stuff. The band is tight as shit and rocks with a thrashing metallic punk overdrive style that is absolutely divine. Completely pummeling drums with raging guitars and driving bass. Chani is pissed and her lyrics show it as much as the backup vocals do. This is epic and triumphant with tons of parts to rock the fingers in the air and bring on the masterful delivery of the most amazing metallic punk I've ever heard. I love this band so much it makes me stupid. Goosebumps, tears in my eyes and purpose in life... to make people understand how this is the best!! I have been rocking this 6 song CD since I got it and it has this amazing cut to it where it goes from track 6 back to track 1 without so much as

time to breath, which means that I just keep it playing cause months later I still can't get enough. !!!!!!! (Die Screaming / PO Box 9029/ Pittsburgh PA 15224 / aphasia@yahoo.com) (-Chris)

DISPENSING OF FALSE HALOS- GROWING UP, GIVING IN CD Brutal and metallic hardcore from Iowa. This band has called it quits, and this is a combo deal of their 2 7"s, plus a few extra unreleased songs. This has a strong edge of intensity, that rages and gets pretty tech at times as well. Crunching and chugging guitars, in that scream-o emo metal genre. The vocals are extreme - super scream and harsh.

Powerful shit. Brutal crossed with the ethereal high notes. Kinda painful at times and as it goes on it becomes more discordant, and more harsh and abrasive with

even more angst. Another really nice looking layout with cool bird and cityscape artwork (Int' Records/ PO Box 871/ Sioux Falls SD 57101/www.intrecords.com) (-Chris)

ESTEL-MY DREAMS ARE LIKE RABBITS, THEY BUILT A TUNNEL, FELL ONTO THE PAVEMENT AND DIED CD From the streets of Dublin comes the almost entirely instrumental band that has zero to do with penny whistles, fiddles, or those hand held drums. It's strange to me how a band from 30 years or so ago can seem to just within the last few years become so influential to so many new bands but that's what Goblin has done. Estel much like Goblin play creepy ambient music that could easily be a soundtrack to a film or a nightmare. Estel is not a carbon copy of Goblin they play faster and are less bass heavy. There some Godspeed influences but Estel reminds me more of fellow new school Goblin worshippers Zombi but slightly less ambient and without the full on synth. Estel synth elements are more stripped down and with a really nice tone. One of the things I like most about this recording is the xylophone which helps add to the creepy elements. Every song on this recording is long and epic. Only one has vocals which are more of creepy whispers and distorted screams then singing which fits the music pretty well. If you like your music dark and scary this is for you. (Little Plastic Tapes/ 64 Derry Drive/ Crumlin, Dublin 12/ Ireland / estelrocks.com) (european)

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years and haven't really changed their sound. They play straightforward punk rock, which defines labeling. Musically, they sound similar to Youth Brigade, Dillinger Four, Leatherface, and the like. Sure to please if you like any of those bands. They keep things political. Shit, isn't it hard not to these days? It has really sick propaganda-style artwork. Oh, this record, like their other two LPs, was recorded by Frankie Stubbs, which might have something to do with the Leatherface sound. (Newest Industry Records, Unit 100, 61 Wellfield Rd., Cardiff, CF24 3DG, UK / www.thewestindustry.com) - TNT

GET RAD - THUNDER IN YOUR HEART CDR DEMO This is frantic hardcore from Milwaukee. Foot to the flood power adrenaline and speed this is hard driving and moves. Lyrically the themes are pro-living and anti-responsible living and drinking. I love the band name I really do. When Dave told me about this new band, I was instantly intrigued and since every band that I know of that Dave's been in (7 Days of Samsara, High on Crime) has been awesome, I had high expectations that were met. This is a DIY CDR with a silkscreen cover sleeve and a well-laid out lyric sheet inside. This is hardcore played fast, furious and pissed. And it hits like a whirlwind and then it's done, and you want more. Look out for this band. (Get Rad/ 4144 S 1st Place/ Milwaukee WI 53207 / www.thunderinyourheart.com) (-Chris)

GONNA FALL HARD - SLAP BY GANDHI EP It's like a fucking hardcore smoother on this gem, GHF deliver elements of US82, crossover thrash, NHYC, modern fastcore and the occasional nod to their own Italian roots. All blended together in seven delicious little songs. Even better than I remember them live, this record smokes from start to finish, and even the "think for yourself/I stabbed in the back" lyrics are forgivable when the music is this damn good. Nothing else to say, except that if you like to circlepit, bang your head, pump your fist in the air, or fucking mosh, then GONNA FALL HARD will hook you right up. This is awesome. (-Robert) (headon, via S. Cristoforo n.1, 36061 Bassano-VI, ITALY, www.gonnafallhard.spider.it)

GREETINGS FROM URBANIA - DEMO TAPE John and I listened to the tape twice in the van on the way to Madison yesterday, and not only could we not decide whether or not we like it, we could not even decide WHAT it is. Folksy noise that sounds as much like a wind quartet as it does punk. Actually, more like a wind quartet. Random shrieks with subdued male and female singing, with chanting in the background. I'm still on the fence as to what it is, or what its intent might be... (-Robert) (\$2, free to prisoners, PO Box 13392, Philadelphia, PA 19101)

GYRELETT-SPINNING VIBRATION CD This is apparently the new project from members of Counterpoint whose CD is also reviewed in this issue. And to be honest this is exactly what I could imagine a bunch of older crusty peace punkers playing. It's rocky with political lyrics and folk elements. They kind of remind me of both New Model Army and the Levellers in certain ways. (Terraphile PO Box 31774/ Cincinnati OH 45231) (european)

HARD SKIN - SAME MEAT... DIFFERENT GRAVY LP If an Oi band did stand-up comedy, then Hard Skin would be the lead attraction. This is their second full-length, and a great follow up to the Helen Of Oi debut. Same themes, but new tunes, all about the skinhead life & times. You get your cop-song, your drinking song, your political song, etc. But these aren't the ones that would cause riots & protests, rather these cause laughter instead. The topics are the same as your old 4 Skins/Last Resort/ Combat 84 records, but leave you with a smile on your face, instead of the chin. I would like to see a split release with these guys & Oi! from California, as it would rule for sure! The CD version of this is on TKO Records, by the way. (Hermits Records, PO Box 309, Leeds LS2 7AH, UK www.hermitsrecords.co.uk) (Dave)

HASRAT - SOCIAL COMA TAPE Raw thrashing grind/fastcore from Malaysia. Distorted vocals, rapid fire drumming, and a blurring guitar that stops with a resounding Kunchi. Nine song pro-cassette with politically charged lyrics. Perfect for the raw punk bastards. (-Robert) (Avail Records c/o Mohd Ibrahim Ahmad, #118, Taman Sri Arjuna, Jalan Sipitang, 89807 Beaufort, SABAH MALAYSIA, email: avail@yahoo.com)

HATE CRIMES - Suicide Bomb CD Not nice... not posh... just fast & loud hardcore from Washington DC. Themes include being fed up with the current state of hardcore, going skating, sticking to your guns (not in the NRA way, you silly



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MILKMAN, not to mention the musicianship (note: THE MILKMAN can fucking play their asses off, whether they were singing about poop or not). Total "I don't give a shit" punk rock from south Florida clean cut kids. "Big Fat Baloney Sandwich," "Cheddar Cheese Party," "A Funny Red Moustache," and the Dr. Demento classic "mananana" are all represented here, and it can be yours for only \$6.99. (-Robert) (Burrito Records, PO Box 3204 Brandon, FL 33509)



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DETONATORS - SONIC MANIFESTO EP Eugene via Los Angeles punks DETONATORS released two singles recently, both from one of the latest incarnations of the band, recorded in 1991. The four songs here could have easily been recorded far earlier, and it would seem that THE DETONATORS maintained their fury quite well. Fast gruff hardcore punk that brings NOTA to mind, especially the vocals, although these songs are typically more basic. The angst of "Bastards" is unmistakable, and the recording quality is perfect for these songs. Not very familiar with the early stuff (I'm not old school enough, you know?), but if this is what they did at the end of their career it would seem I need to seek it out. (-Robert) (N.F.N. Records, PO Box 10384, Eugene Oregon 97440)

and as it goes on it becomes more discordant, and more harsh and abrasive with even more angst. Another really nice looking layout with cool bird and cityscape artwork (Init Records/PO Box 871/Sioux Falls SD 57101/www.initrecords.com) (-Chris)

ESTEL-MY DREAMS ARE LIKE RABBITS, THEY BUILT A TUNNEL, FELL ONTO THE PAVEMENT AND DIED CD From the streets of Dublin comes the almost entirely instrumental band that has zero to do with penny whistles, fiddles, or those hand held drums. It's strange to me how a band from 30 years or so ago can seem to just within the last few years become so influential to so many new bands but that's what Estel has done. Estel much like Goblin play creepy ambient music that could easily be a soundtrack to a film or a nightmare. Estel is not a carbon copy of Goblin they play faster and are less bass heavy. There some Godspeed influences but Estel reminds me more of fellow new school Goblin worshippers Zombi but slightly less ambient and without the full on synth. Estels synth elements are more stripped down and with a really nice tone. One of the things I like most about this recording is the xylophone which helps add to the creepy elements. Every song on this recording is long and epic. Only one has vocals which are more of creepy whispers and distorted screams then singing which fits the music pretty well. If you like your music dark and scary this is for you. (Little Plastic Tapes/ 64 Derry Drive Crumlin, Dublin 12/Ireland / estelrocks.com) (europian)

E-SPACE-PRELIMINARY IMPACT REPORT CD This is some pretty heavy instrumental, by an ex-member of Man Is The Bastard and some other people. It's very industrial, with lots of noise, very tribal sounding drumming, and the occasional melodic psychedelic freak out. This sounds like something that would fit very well in the Neurot records catalog. The imagery they're going for seems to have vague political allusions, but I don't personally endorse the offensive cover picture of a naked, rope-bound woman. (Mobilization, Box 460951, San Francisco, CA 94146-0951) (Neal)

F.U.B.A.R.-Justification Of Criminal Behaviour CD After a great split CD release w/ Catheter on Selfmadegod Records comes the debut full length CD from this sick grinding powerviolence band! Featuring a member of Suppository, FUBAR take 22 tracks and cram them straight down your throat! A non stop barrage of in your face

we like it, we could not even decide WHAT it is. Folksy noise that sounds as much like a wind quartet as it does punk

Actually, more like a wind quartet. Random shrieks with subdued male and female singing, with chanting in the background. I'm still on the fence as to what it is, or what its intent might be... (-Robert) (\$2, free to prisoners, PO Box 13392, Philadelphia, PA 19101)

GRYELLELOT-SPINNING VIBRATION CD This is apparently the new project from members of Counterpose whose CD is also reviewed in this issue. And to be honest this is exactly what I could imagine a bunch of older crusty peace punkers playing. It's rocky with political lyrics and folk elements. They kind of remind me of both New Model Army and the Levellers in certain ways. (Terraphile PO Box 317741 Cincinnati OH 45231) (europian)

HARD SKIN - SAME MEAT... DIFFERENT GRAVY LP If an Oi band did stand-up comedy, then Hard Skin would be the lead attraction. This is their second full-length, and a great follow up to the Helen Of O debut. Same themes, but new tunes, all about the skinhead life & times. You get your cop-song, your drinking song, your political song, etc. But these aren't the ones that would cause riots & protests, rather these cause laughter instead. The topics are the same as your old 4 Skins/Last Resort/Combat 84 records, but leave you with a smile on your face, instead of a boot to the chin. I would like to see a split release with these guys & OiL from California, as it would rule for sure! The CD version of this is on TKO Records, by the way. (Hermit Records, PO Box 309, Leeds LS2 7AH, UK www.hermitsrecords.co.uk) (Dave)

HASRAT - SOCIAL COMA TAPE Raw thrashing grind/fastcore from Malaysia. Distorted vocals, rapid fire drumming, and a blurring guitar that stops with a resounding Kunchi. Nine song pro-cassette with politically charged lyrics. Perfect for the raw punk bastards. (-Robert) (Avail Records c/o Mohd Ibrahim Ahmad, #118, Taman Sri Anjana, Jalan Sipitang, 89087 Beaufort, SABAH MALAYSIA, item_avail@yahoo.com)

HATE CRIMES - Suicide Bomb CDep Not nice... not 'posi'... just fast & loud hardcore from Washington DC. Themes include being fed up with the current state of hardcore, going skating, sticking to your guns (not in the NRA way, you silly



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goose), and lots more. It's not overly 'serious' though, and lacks any tough guy posturing. Good variety, and nothing that strays too far from good ol' hardcore. He does say 'fuck' a lot, which is one of my favorite expletives. (Hate Crimes, 666 Irving Street NW, Washington, DC 20010) (Dave)

HELEN OF TROY - FOR ALL WHO HAVE SAILED THE FOREIGN SEAS CD This is a live song CD EP of discordant hardcore in the vein of a lot of other Waking Records releases. The sound is erratic in a good way, sometimes fast and chaotic and other times calm and ambient but always changing. The vocals are screamed, sung and growled. What I don't like about this release is the many, many thanks lists and lack of a lyric sheet which would be helpful in understanding what is being sung/screamed here. What I like is the super tight drumming and the long drawn out ambient parts the make the frantic parts so much more intense. (Waking Records/1803 Riverside dr-5m/NY, NY 10034) (europian)

HENRIK PETERZONS ORKESTER - AT HELVETE MED HELA SKITEN 7" Damn I love Sweden. This is a low-fi recording compared to the usual powerhouses I've been listening to. But that doesn't take away from the punk attack quality here. The vocal style is screamy, the music is fairly straightforward in a blasting blistered manner. Some double bass drumming rocks it here and there. Lyrically this is half English half Swedish and talks about capitalism and the numbness of the working class with some anti-religion sentiments. (Not Enough Records/Mailbox 1013/Lilla Kungsatan 2/411 41 GBG Sweden) (-Chris)

HIGH ON CRIME - POUR SOME SEWAGE ON ME 7" Milwaukee's HOC are heavy beyond believability—as in so heavy this could kill you! If you don't already know about this band, it's 2/3's of Artimus Pyle and guitar slayer from 7 Days of Samsara, and a wicked double bass drummer, combining efforts to play a powerful wall of heavy, drop tuned, bass throbbing power that blisters with oozing pus, and raw sewage. Vocally gnarly and intense, and just as over the top. Songs about a dying earth, sewage in the lake and soldiers killed for nothing. This is brutality beyond words, delivered in apocalyptic hardcore form: Heavy, driving and powerful. Fucking luck yeah, and then some. (Hungry Ghosts/PO Box 62024/19 Middleton WI 53562 / www.hungryghostrecords.com) (-Chris) ***

HOLLOW GROUND - Cold Reality CD Six songs in the newer/metal style that bands like Terror/Hatebreed have taken polished to a shine. This isn't quite up to their level yet, but still a solid release. Lots of double bass, and enough chugga in the guitar department to keep the kids moshing. Familiar ground with what is going on in 'modern hardcore' right now, but not a cheap carbon-copy. (Organized Crime Records, PO Box 213, Brookfield, IL 60513 www.organizedcrimeresords.com) (Dave)



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NO FRAUD "Hard To The Core" 12"	\$8.00
SLIGHT SLAPPERS "Over Come By Pain" 7"	\$4.00
SNUF "And No One Else Wanted To Play" CD/LP	\$11.00/9.00
TRES KIDS "s/t" 7"	\$4.00

HOLLOWED OUT 10" Crusty, spastic, punk hardcore from Illinois. This is aggressive distorted music that has a few slow intros and breakdowns but for the most part is fast as hell. It reminds me a bit of 90's crust especially the songs with dual vocals. The drums are played in that ever so popular D-beat style. I love the lyrics as they take on such standard crust topics as capitalism, consumerism, corporations, and the media, but Hollowed Out take it a step further by singing about fashion punks and college kids as well. This is good stuff and it reminds me of what I was listening to throughout the 90's. (2412 Slaybach St Urbana, IL 61802/ Hollowedout CJB net) (europian)

HOMOIRATUS - [APOCALYPSE] Vicious metal from Greece with punk rock edge that's razor sharp. Cancer throat vocals, powerful guitar work and skin bashing that is simply superb and top notch to boot. Same attitude as Sepultura meaning there is a message with the madness. A dark, pissed off view of society real and hyper real as in the track "e-land phobia". Nice to see that people even give a fuck about making good metal these days. (CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY RECORDS/PO Box 1421/E Claire, WI 54702/www.caahrecords.com) (-Johnny)

LOBJECT - FIRST TWO YEARS CD I Object are a rad band that play intelligent idealistic positive hardcore punk in the most straight forward and best way. In a day and age when musical styles have become so genre oriented, I Object manage to deliver the goods in a way that reminds me of the spirit of yesterday. I always say that they remind me of ABC NO RIO in the early 90s, and I stand by that. They young, they're punk, they're angry but they're also positive and optimistic and hopeful. Their energy is arcing. Their messages are positive and strong. They're so good! This is a collection of the various 7"s and recordings they've done, cohesively assembled. Sound quality is great, the layout is punk and informative. I was so excited to see I Object at the Chicago Fest and see how into them people were; cause I always thought that they were one of those amazing bands that went unappreciated. It seems that people are getting it and recognizing that this is one of the best bands of our time. Their hardcore punk style rages with catchy beats, rage and passion, and really great female vocals and a dual m/f style. I love Barb's voice and the way the songs are recorded - you can hear her words and understand them. They are straight forward statements about how things are about getting involved in DIY punk, being stoked about women active in the punk scene, speaking opinions, distaste in the corporate world, commentary on the punk scene, not drinking beer and the lack of general respect and so many great things that are straight forward and plainly spoken. No reading between the lines here. Their lyrics say what they think, and the messages are positive and inclusive without being confrontational or dogmatic. In fact they're totally inspiring and really amazing! The songs are catchy and raging with adrenaline and energy and some of the most sincere passionate reality. I Object rule in all ways! I love them and I want everyone to hear them, see them, know them. This is a band that embraces everything about punk rock that matters, and fuel the fires for the future of punk. This collection of hardcore for the punks is perfect! Fuck yeah!! This would be one of the most recommended bands and CD releases I would suggest checking out. (Punks Before Profits/ 537 Caroline St/ Rochester NY 14620 / www.punksbeforeprofits.com) (-Chris) ****

IMPERIAL - THIS GRAVE IS MY POEM CD This is some seriously brutal metallic hardcore, which then trades with the emo style that has become mainstream popular. I was disappointed when I first heard that transition, I loved emo metal before it got co-opted, but they make it work. When Imperial is brutal, they could kill with the monster stoms and incredible mean sounding metal. Dual guitars and dual vocals deliver some ripping power and amazing riffs and patterns, which echo many influences and nods to others. A touch of Scandi-metal, a touch of Hatebreed mosh power, a touch of Poison The Well, and yet fortunately they never let go into any of these genres and actually manage to pull it all together in a refreshing manner, which is a treat. I didn't think that I could be charmed by a new band this genre that has been done to death, but Imperial have done it. This is great shit!! Why is it that when hardcore metal bands have thank lists longer than their lyrics they always thank god first? (Pluto Records/PO Box 1201/Mckinney TX 75070) (-Chris)

IN THE FACE OF WAR - LIVE FOREVER OR DIE TRYING I have to say that this label has some nice looking layouts and cover designs. Birds. This is a good mix of hardcore styles that incorporate a youthful angst with some youthcrew back-ups and sing-alongs, dual vocals which sound like a boy and girl, but I are two boys shouting and screaming, which take on an almost scenario-style at times. What is unexpected is the Foo Fighters cover. Decent song and all, but I can't think of a band doing a cover song of a pop song that is so recent. Anyway, this is a good sound, and I like the range they have. The lyrics are nice and mostly about friendship and the bonds and connections and all the good stuff. Post-emo heartfelt stuff, ya know. Perhaps treading into a bit of a pop-hardcore style if that makes any sense, but I like what they're doing here. Solid all around and a band that could be all the rage with the kids. (Init Records/PO Box 871/Sieu Falls SD 57101 / www.initrecords.com) (-Chris)

INFECTED MINDS - IT'S YOUR TIME TO GO! CD Southern California skate punk. Fast and raw, with lyrics about the president and how bad he is (war and nationalism, also bad it turns out). This is 14 year old friendly punk, in a good way. I WANT kids to listen to this like this instead of radio fed crap. except that their label is called "What Now Bitch" Minus 18 points, go back to start. (-Robert) (What Now Bitch? Records, www.mindsofinfection.cjb.net)

INNER TERRESTRIALS - X CD I originally reviewed this CD in issue #79 when it was released on Motorhead. Now it's been reissued by Mass Productions in France and I still love this amazing English band. There are so few of these utterly amazing, ground breaking scene and style crossing hybrid bands that just breath fresh air into political



Die Screaming
Roboto, Pittsburgh 3/25

though the accent does get so strong at times that it jumbles in that delightful way. This rocks and it's so catchy that you'll be doing hip twists and humming along the choruses in your head all day. Fucking amazing I tell you. (www.massprod.com / www.innerterrestrials.org.uk) (-Chris) *****

JEUNESSE APATRIDE - LA VICTOIRE SOMMELLE CD I could have sworn that I just reviewed the last release from this French Canadian anti-fascist band, but it's actually been 2 issues now. Like the last time around, this comes with a huge booklet conveying their intensely political class war, militant eco-defender, anti-oil wars, pro youth liberation and anti-conformity ethics and ideologies, plus stands on the FTA, and EZLN, and the capitalist USA, all in translated into English, French and Spanish. I'm pretty sure that French is their language and that which they actually sing in, as it is the majority of what the booklet is written in. Anyway, this hardcore political band plays a great kind of melodic punk, with well sung vocals by a female lead singer who's got an amazing voice. She seems to be singing a bit harsher and more from the gut than I recall from before, which gives these words of rebellion more strength. This is really amazing!! Even though this leans in a melodic direction, it is powerful and strong with catchy riffs to fight back with. Totally recommended to check out! (Fire and Flames/Route St. 3/37073 Göttingen/Germany/ www.fireandflames.com / jeansesseapatride.northernhacking.org) (-Chris)

JOHN DENVER'S AIRPLANE CDR DEMO People are always telling me I will like this band but I think it's just because I like John Denver. This of course sounds nothing like John Denver it in fact reminds me of X-Ray Specs crossed with quirky yet pretty heavy punk. Well what really makes me think of X-Ray Specs is the way the

melodic in the best possible way. Draw a line from countrymen SIN D105 and E150, and these fellows would sit squarely in the middle of that path; far more raw than the former, but less blazing than the latter. Seven songs here, and I flipped it over when I got to the end, I think it might be time for a 12" (Robert) (Mala Raza PO Box 6037, 50080 Zaragoza SPAIN - or www.firstbloodfamily.com)

KATHY CASHEL - THE QUESTION IS YES CD I'm all for ladies making music. This is Kathy Cashel's second solo CD. Her songs are simple and pure. It's just her and a guitar and maybe some friends to sing back-ups. I like my lady rock (and all of my rock, for that matter) to have a little more punch. This isn't bad, just a little boring. (Exotic Fever Records, P.O. Box 297, College Park, MD 20741/www.exoticever.com) -TNT

KLONOPIN - s/t EP Grindcore for hardcore kids. Blazing leads and jackhammer drums with throat searing vocals. Nine songs, and I waited till the fourth one to get so much as a breakdown for a breather. Tight as hell, and well recorded. If you like fast, this is your shit. Bitter lyrics and a kick ass package as well. Self released, and well worth your time. The review is to the point, just like the record. (-Robert) (\$4 pdm from NutzAc/Klonopin, 2063 Manchester Ave., Escondido, CA 92027, www.klonopin666.com)

KNEE DEEP IN SHIT - FUCKING DESTROYED EP Ripping fastcore from Michigan, with songs that bag on pop punk, christians and designer jeans. What the fuck else is there? That's what I thought. There is absolutely nothing special on the record, and that's what makes it so damned awesome... up your ass hardcore from a bunch of midwestern kids. Excellent. (-Robert) (Nancy Howard Records, 5726 Sussex Court, Troy, MI 48098, www.kneedeepinshit.com)

LA ARMADA ROJA - CUANDO LOS MUDOS HABLA RON CD After a four minute spoken intro, this disc rips into some pretty good melodic hardcore. There are all of the hooks, stops and starts you might remember from lots of mid 1990s melodic skate punk bands, but LA ARMADA are faster and more intense, and the vocal delivery sounds like a spanish speaking NYHC bad ass is running the show. No lyrics, but this Dominican Republic band delivers the goods musically. (-Robert) (www.punkdominican.tk / larmadaroja@hotmail.com)

LAGWAGON - LIVE IN ADVANCE CD I had a Lagwagon LP when I was in high school and I think I liked a couple of songs on it. I scanned through this live CD, which sounds pretty good for a live record, but I couldn't find any songs that sounded familiar or even all that likable to my ears. All in all, there are twenty-two tracks on this CD, plus live videos, and comics. This CD is a must for a fan of Lagwagon's, disposable for the rest of us. (Fat Wreck Chords, P.O. Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119 / www.fatwreck.com) -TNT

LAST DAYS OF HUMANITY - IN Advanced Hemorrhaging Conditions MCD This band should need no introduction! I've been waiting to hear this MCD. The masters of Goregrind return w/10 brand new blistering brutal songs! Excellent recording quality, ultra heavy sound! Ultra burly guttural growls, blistering beat blasts. A total bombardment of all the senses. Sick Sick shit, an absolute must have for any fan of Goregrind or even Brutal Death Metal. (www.goregrind.net/lastdaysofhumanity / www.bonesbrigaderrecords.com) (Barrett)

LE FORCE-LE FORTRESS Mostly instru/metal madness disk that shows a broad range of talent and devotion to craft as well love of power rock breakdowns and molten fireball guitar solos. This band has their chops down and seriously blaze

through each song with stunning skill and an aggressive drive that swerve of into more lush almost prog rock bits on some tracks. This is an enhanced CD as well with video tracks showing just how they tear it up in Le Force camp. Don't be scared of the metal, it's good for you when it's done right and these fuckers know how. And how!! (WANTAGE USA / www.wantageusa.com / www.le-force.com) (-Johnny)

LIFE CRISIS - UNPEACEFUL PROTEST Z" Wow, this is pretty amazing. Super fast thrash-a-thon hardcore, ala the old-school 80's era. Anti-war songs about the USA's permanent state of war, and toxic pollution. When is enough enough? And how bad does it have to get before you give a shit is the general idea here. There's also a good rhyming fuck punk song, which is kinda strange but I think it's funny, "punk's a bust, no one to trust, I hate punk it's fuckin' junk." This totally reminds me of the Reagan era of hardcore and I picture Brandon from Direct Control and Robert from What Happens Next? losing their mind over this hardcore-thrash-a-thon. Good shit that would be even better if these guys list didn't say "thanks bitches!" (Get Revenge 4118 Florida St./San Diego CA 92104)



Die Screaming

Load, Barbarosa, Hawg Jaw, Reeb, Icicle-Revival, Tanked, Weedeater, and Spicke.

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KARNVAPEN ATTACK - SECRETOS, MANTIRAS, ENAJANACION EP Fast catchy distorted blasts from Spain's KARNVAPEN ATTACK. Seven songs, some bordering on

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Die Screaming

it's good for you when it's done right and these fuckers know how. And how!!! (WANTAGE USA / www.wantageusa.com / www.le-force.com) (-Johnny)

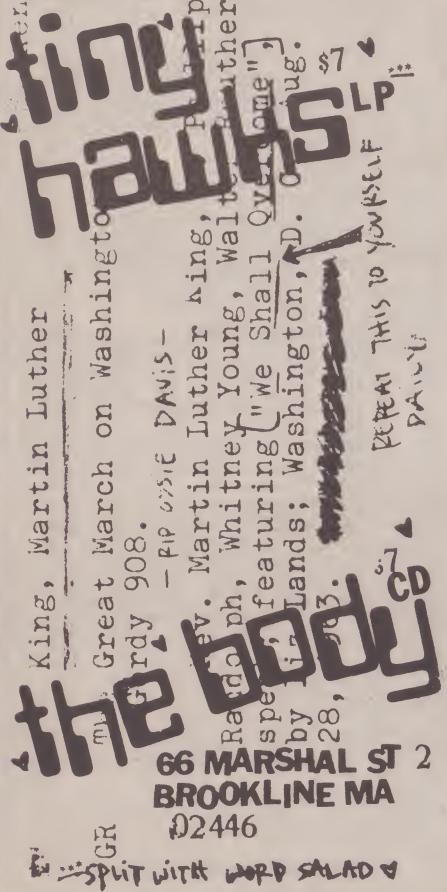
LIFE CRISIS - UNPEACEFUL PROTEST 7"

Wow, this is pretty amazing. Super fast thrash-a-thon hardcore, ala the old-school 80s era. Anti-war songs about the USA's permanent state of war, and toxic pollution. When is enough enough? And how bad does it have to get before you give a shit is the general idea here. There's also a good rhyming fuck punk song, which is kinda strange but I think it's funny, "punk's a bust, no one to trust, I hate punk it's fuckin' junk." This totally reminds me of the Reagan era of hardcore and I picture Brandon from Direct Control and Robert from What Happens Next? losing their mind over

this hardcore-thrash-a-thon. Good shit that would be even better if their thanks list didn't say "thanks bitches!" (Get Revenge 4118 Florida St./San Diego CA 92104) (-Chris)

LIMP WRIST - THE OFFICIAL LIMP WRIST DISCOGRAPHY CD Spread out all over the US for the last 5 years, LIMP WRIST have been spreading out the mantra of queer positive straight edge hardcore with a vengeance (although they are only 34 queer, and now only half edge... **sigh**). This disc contains everything (that's everything everything, as in it includes stuff skipped by the not so authorized "discography" of last year, although this does pre-date the KNIFED split, so it's not really EVERYTHING), plus a live video, which should be mandatory in CD discographies, cause it's just so easy and cheap to do, ya know? The comparison to

MOGANONO NEW



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VARUKERS

TOXIC NARCOTIC

ONLY 3 EAST COAST SHOWS!

JUNE 15th UPPER DARBY, PA @ ALH

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JUNE 17th Boston, MA @ TBA

WEST COAST TOUR DATES WITH SCARRED FOR LIFE

June 18th Corona, CA @ Showcase Theatre

June 19th Hollywood, CA @ Knitting Factory

June 20th Phoenix, AZ @ Big Fish Pub

June 21st El Paso, TX @ Surges

June 22nd San Antonio, TX @ The Sanctuary

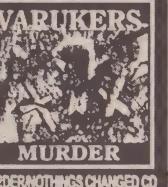
June 23rd Corpus Christie, TX @ TBA

June 24th Houston, TX @ Mary Janes Fat Cat

June 25th Austin, TX @ Emo's

June 26th Dallas, TX @ Red Blood Club

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07/11/05 Baltimore, MD @ Sidebar

07/12/05 Wash, DC @ Warehouse Next Door

07/13/05 Philadelphia, PA @ TBA

07/14/05 Pittsburgh, PA @ Roberto

07/15/05 Chicago, IL @ TBA

07/16/05 Minneapolis, MN @ Triple Rock

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WITH MOUTH SEWN SHUT & SSB

07/19/05 Bismarck, ND @ TBA

07/20/05 Billings, MT @ TBA

07/21/05 Missoula, MT @ Area 5

07/22/05 Seattle, WA @ Catwalk

07/23/05 Tacoma, WA @ Hells Kitchen

07/24/05 Portland, OR @ Solid State

07/25/05 Medford, OR @ Music Head

07/26/05 SF/Sacramento, CA @ TBA

07/27/05 Los Angeles, CA @ TBA

07/28/05 Corona, CA @ Showcase Theatre

07/29/05 Oakland, CA @ BOB Festival

CRUDOS is obvious, but primarily because Martin's voice is so damn distinct, and the lyrical barrage goes far beyond songs about sucking cock (though that topic, and other like it, are certainly addressed), and the hardcore is hard. Fast aggressive rifling in the best possible US82 way; think early Boston and a healthy dose of early Midwestern energy. You know them surely, and if you don't, then this is your introduction. 41 songs, from the demo onward, plus the aforementioned live shirts with a psycho-billy Cramps like guitar sound. Elephant fuzz it says on the instruments. Very retro. And pretty cool. (Vida Loca Records/Casella Postale 17033/00189 Roma Grottarossa Italy) (-Chris)

MURDER OF CROWS CD Metal punk at it's most brutal. This reminds me a lot of the first ABC Diablo record (not the emosh one) especially the distorted horse screamed vocals. The lyrics are political yet dark and foreboding. There are lots of references to the end of the world, the pointlessness of existence and human beings tendency towards self and total destruction. Yet glimmers of hope can be found as well if the lyrics are carefully perused. This is heavy, aggressive, and dark and I would recommend it for fans of modern metallic punk. (noblematt@hairstresser.net)(european)

NAILED DOWN - PERTH WOLFPACK CD This is the 1st LP ever recorded by these Australian Crust grinders! Contains 18 tracks of pure old school hardcore songs including cover versions from Negative Fx and Blitz. Reminds me in some songs of the Pist, w/ more gruff vocals, and older Scandinavian crust bands. Sounds like it was recorded back in the early 80's. Very cool layout featuring all the cover art from all of Nailed Down's releases, this CD also includes some CD-Rom live tracks! (Power It Up, Postfach 1114, 38156 Vechta, Germany /www.power-it-up.de) (Barrett)

NASUM-SHIFT Another pulverizing slab of grind from Swedish boys who know how to lay it down and tear it up. Marvelous musicianship andunning craftiness. Nasty as a nailbomb and caustic as an acid bath, "Shift" takes off like a scud missile and explodes taking out everything in its path without remorse nor regret. The Nasum dudes are

angry as hell about everything that is wrong and fucked in modern society and very eloquently let you know what they think and feel about it. Grind on fellas!!! (RELAPSE RECORDS/PO Box 2060/Upper Darby, PA, 190082 /www.relapse.com) (-Johnny)

NEGATIVE APPROACH - Ready To Fight CD FUCK YES! NA is one of those bands that will always give me goosebumps when I hear them. This CD is more proof why! This compiles a bunch of demos, as well as some live tracks, totaling 50 songs! There are even some previously unreleased songs too - which was great to hear. The only 'bad' part of this release is that it doesn't have the LP or 7" tracks, since I guess Touch & Go would not let them appear here. The live tracks on this are a LOT better than muddy

noise on the T&G CD too, and even these rough demo tracks put a smile on my face with their pure ferocity. Basically this is the other half of the required listening for NA fans new & old. It is rough in a lot of places, but NA were never 'nice' to begin with. The liner notes fill in some blanks too, though I would have liked more pictures. (Reptilian Records, 403 S. Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21231 www.reptilianrecords.com) (Dave)

NEGLIGENCE - COMPLETE DON FURY SESSIONS CD Most of these tracks came out a bit ago, but from what I remember, it was a disappointment due to bad mastering/mixing or something. This has an expanded amount of tracks, totaling 19, and sounds much better. I remember seeing them once, and the singer was insane, as in, he seemed just as angry as the actual words he was beltng out. Very heavy stuff here. Not for the weak or for anyone looking for 'positive hardcore'. With songs like 'From The Womb To The Tomb' & 'Fuck Life' - you get the idea. (NGS Records, PO Box 334, Westmont, IL, 60559 www.ngsrecords.com) (Dave)

NEVER ENOUGH - DEAD SET ON DESTRUCTION CD It's always weird to get your friends' bands for review, but in a way it's kind of cool. Never Enough are

one of the coolest, most sincere, and certainly most dedicated hardcore bands out these days. They keep it straightforward and energetic, while refusing to water down any bit of their sound. This CD compiles a ridiculous twenty-seven tracks from a seven inch, a demo, a live radio show, and six new songs. If you like bands like Kill Your Idols, Right Brigade, Poison Idea, and any number of early eighties and nineties hardcore punk bands, check this CD out. They bring a much-needed element of intelligence to

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Totally gnarled and insane raspy vocals and a good thick plodding thickness to the power of the guitar and the drum delivery. This record came with a poster, patch, sticker, a hundred small flyers for various shows they've played as well as the lyrics and the band statement, which is practically in old English but basically says fuck religion and the dogma which feeds war, oppression and violence. Burning churches, covens of witches, incantation and dogma, murder of the shit god... at least I know where they're coming from with the religious references. This has a touch of rawness and blistering sound in conjunction with the metallic slaying, and it's no Hellshock, but I'm still intrigued and obsessed. (DOTV/1506 SE Clinton St/Portland OR 97202) (-Chris)

OUT COLD - GOODBYE CRUEL WORLD CD Massachusetts can not stop churning out quality fast hardcore it seems, and Out Cold is another to add to the list. I'd like to compare this to the DC punkers The Suspects but with more snort, and more fast parts too. Digging it even more on my second listen, which is always a good thing! 14 songs packed into a short amount of time. (Acme Records, PO Box 441, Dracut, MA 01826 www.acmerecords.net) (Dave)

PAINT IT BLACK - PARADISE CD Say what you will about this band, I think they are awesome. I got the demo for PIB's newest, Paradise, back in February and it's held a spot in my CD player whenever the Smoke or Fire CD isn't in there. On Paint It Black's sophomore outing, Dr. Dan Yermin's vocals and lyrics outshine those on CVA. All of the songs on this record are about his divorce and frustration with our stupid government (who needs DC when I've got D4, "indeed"). Musically, PIB keeps things tight and energetic, especially on the drums, but they branch out a little on this record to give a nod to punk bands that don't necessarily sound like Black Flag. This record

isn't the gleaming needle in the haystack of shitty punk bands, they're the spark to set that pile of fire. Jade Tree never ceases to amaze! (Jade Tree Records, 2310 Kennwynn Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810 /www.jadetree.com) -TNT

PANIC! AT THE DISCO - VAMPIRE This is the 1st in issue #81 when the vinyl was out on Unsociable and Sabotage Records. Now the CD is available and it comes in a DVD sized style package. I loved this the first time around and feel the same now. Dark heavy hardcore from Germany. A complex interwoven and layered mix of melancholic guitars that grate with distortion and dance with melody, with pummeling drums and guttural deep raspy vocals. The deep vocals, and dark lyrics go perfectly with the darkness of the music. To me this sounds like what I've come to know as the heavy discordant German hardcore, kinda like Zeroid. There's also a touch of His Hero is Gone influence here too, in that PKC do know how to let out the dark mid-paced hardcore roots amongst all the discordant dark mania. Love it! (Civilisation Records/ Parkstrasse 39/ 89312 Gunzburg/Germany /www.civilisation-records.com/Per Koro Records/PO Box 102514/28025 Bremen/Germany /www.perkoro.de vinyl: www.unsociable.net) (-Chris)

PASCHOW - GESCHICHTEN DE EINER SICHER... CD P: Paschow are from Germany and they play German melodic punk rock. My German is a bit rusty, but from what I can figure out, their songs are about girls, the kid being assholes, burning Paris to the ground, and riding bikes. Musically, they sound like a mix between Samiam, Husker D., and Bad Religion. There is also a bonus video of their song "Trampen Nach Norden," which isn't on the album, but it's really good. (Cargo Records Germany, www.cargo-records.de) -TNT

PICTURE FRAME SEDUCTION - Sex War CD Though I was not familiar with this band that has been around off & on for over 20 years, I have their newest CD in my player. It is all over the place music-wise, from pissed & angry on the opening track to sounding like some drunken outtake from The Business back catalog of hits. The only thing that I didn't like was how out of touch some of the lyrics are, and in some places just plain neanderthal like on "Sex War": "You are my whore, what are you for, you are just my kind". Usually its newer bands that get stuck in a rut by having generic lyrics, but after 20 years, these guys need to improve in their department themselves. (Cut Jam Records, RY Media, PO Box 19, Gloucester, GL3 4YA UK) (Dave)

PIG DESTROYER-TERRIFYER Jesus H. Christ these motherfuckers are sooo sadistically fierce with an unrelenting attack that leaves you cowering in a corner, clawing at the wall. Stellar guitar work and creepy lyrics are what I crave from these bastards and they deliver in spades. Another exceptionally diverse mix of punk and metal styles that bring joy to the heart and pump adrenaline through the veins but bring nightmarish imagery when you close your eyes. Slaggering follow-up to "Prowler in the Yard". Has to be easily one of the best Relapse releases of 2004. (RELAPSE RECORDS/POBox 2060/Upper Darby, PA, 190082 /www.relapse.com) (-Johnny)

PINK RAZORS - SCENE SUICIDE CD This is a local RVA band that plays a catchy style of pop punk that, while a departure for both the label that released it and the sort of thing I usually want to listen to, is pretty fucking good and addictive in an almost surprising way. It's raw and straight forward, but not raw in an "it sucks way." raw in a not totally distorted and heavy, just bare bones straight forward way. This kinda reminds me of the current trend sweeping through the retro punk. The vocal style is pretty snotty, but mostly delivered in a sung together chorus way, while the whole sound is just busted out with a frantic raw energy that is undeniable. The lyrics are stories and have a lot of local RVA references. Dare I say they skip right over the gimmicks and the trend, and just play from the heart and it shows even across the boundaries of genres and what you might think you usually like. I'm surprised and rather captivated. This band could be huge, they're got that kind of

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tonation and doom type drone that I've heard since the stoner rock explosion in recent years and if this is any indication of what the future might have to offer, then there is a lot to be excited about. I like my doom to rock, and this does that! (Cyclop Media/16 du Charron Lewis/Quebec GGV 7X5 Canada) (-Chris) ****

MISERY - NEXT TIME/WHO'S THE FOOL CD This should wrap up the back catalog of Misery releases being re-released. This one contains the SkulldPE LP "Who's the Fool" in "Silence" plus the Next time", and the tracks from the Asrash split. What I think is best about this re-issue, besides it being well put together with lyrics, artwork, record covers and a dedication to Dave Eager, is that finally a couple old songs that got buried in the closet are seeing the light of day. Midnight and New Years, recorded in 1988 with Al on vocals are amazing songs. Midnight has long been one of my favorite songs hanging out on my Insurgency tape just waiting for the world to hear them. This song is dark and eerie and crusty and amazing, and finally - it has surfaced to see the dusky dawn that it's always deserved. (Propane Existence/PO Box 8722/Mpls MN 55408 /www.protanexistense.com) (-Chris) *****

MISERY - PRODUCTION THRU DESTRUCTION CD

This is the classic stuff here, and it's probably most of my all time favorite material from one of my favorite bands. I think at this point that just about everything Misery has done has been re-released to CD in the past year between CAH, PE and Havoc, which is great. This is the classic LP from a decade ago, which while it sits on my record shelf, I'm sure has been impossible to find. What more can I say about Misery really? They're the tundra apocalypses warriors, who play axe grinding heaviness with the deepest throbbing bass the early 90s had ever heard. Taking a cross of strong influences from the Amebix and Killing Joke, they play brutal heavy crust crossing the slow and heavy drone side with galloping pummeling that totally rocks. The bass grinds, while the guitars have enough weaving melodies to keep it amazing. And the vocals are guttural and gnarly. Born Fed Slaughtered is a all time classic. Totally essential. (Crimes Against Humanity/ PO Box 1421/Eau Claire WI 54702/www.cahe records.com) (-Chris) *****

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MOTORAMA - SHY GIRL 7" This a two girl duo from Italy that plays garage rock

Marvelous musicianship and cunning craftiness. Nasty as a nailbom and caustic as an acidbath, "Shit" takes off like a scud missile and explodes taking out everything in its path without remorse nor regret. The Nasum dudes are

angry as hell about everything that is wrong and fucked in modern society and very eloquently let you know what they think and feel about it all. Grind on felas!!! (RELAPSE RECORDS/PO Box 2060/Upper Darby, PA. 190082/www.relapse.com) (-Johnny) **NEGATIVE APPROACH - Ready To Fight CD** FUCK YES! NA is one of those bands that will always give me goosebumps when I hear them. This CD is more proof why! This compiles a bunch of demos, as well as some live tracks, totaling 50 songs! There are even some previously unreleased songs too - which was great to hear. The only 'bad' part of this release is that it doesn't have the LP or 7" tracks, since I guess Touch & Go would not let them appear here. The live tracks on this are a LOT better than muddy noise on the T&G CD too, and even these rough demo tracks put a smile on my face with their pure ferocity. Basically this is the other half of the required listening for NA fans new & old. It is rough in a lot of places, but NA were never 'nice' to begin with. The liner notes fill in some blanks too, though I would have liked more pictures. (Reptilian Records, 403 S. Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21231 www.reptilianrecords.com) (Dave)

NEGLECT - COMPLETE DON FURY SESSIONS CD Most of these tracks came out a bit ago, but from what I remember, it was a disappointment due to bad mastering/mixing or something. This has an expanded amount of tracks, totaling 19, and sounds much better. I remember seeing them once, and the singer was insane, as in, he seemed just as angry as the actual words he was belting out. Very heavy stuff here. Not for the weak or for anyone looking for 'positive hardcore'. With songs like 'From The Womb To The Tomb' & 'Fuck Life' - you get the idea. (NGS Records, PO Box 334, Westmont, IL 60559 www.ngsrecords.com) (Dave) **NEVER ENOUGH - DEAD SET ON DESTRUCTION CD**: It's always weird to get your friends' bands for review, but in a way it's kind of cool. Never Enough are

one of the coolest, most sincere, and certainly most dedicated hardcore bands out these days. They keep it straightforward and energetic, while refusing to water down any bit of their sound. This CD compiles a ridiculous twenty-seven tracks from a seven inch, a demo, a live radio show, and six new songs. If you like bands like Kill Your Idols, Right Brigade, Poison Idea, and any number of early eighties and nineties hardcore punk bands, check this CD out. They bring a much needed element of intelligence to hardcore. Oh yeah, and they have a fat guy in the band, which is a sure sell in my book! (Organized Crime Records, P.O. Box 213 Brookfield, IL 60513 /www.organizedcrimerecords.com) - TNT

NEWGENICS - 7" The record sleeve is totally psychedelic and foretelling of an unknown sound and style really. When I open this up who should I see but Chris Bickle who is ever unpredictable, yet always fashionable and on the cutting edge of music, who along with Drew were both last playing in Guyana Punctione. They're wearing ties and take a serious departure from the fast core of yesterday. This is hard to describe. It rocks. It's not really new wave, not really indie rock or retro, or any of that, and yet

all of that and unique. Reminds me a touch of Refused more in style and statement and potential dance moves, than in sound. Kinda like a modern twist on a mod dance number. Hey what can I say, other than this is good and uncatastrophic. (Hyperrealis/ PO Box 9313/ Savannah GA 31412) (-Chris)

NIKMAT OLALIM - SELF DEVOURING LAND EP That Israeli bands tend to be more overtly political should not really come as a surprise, and this EP is no exception. Two essays fill the inside of the cover: "Abusing Anti-Semitism," and "Did You Ever Think What's It Like To Shoot Somebody In The Head?" Both are poignant and well written, and serve as an effective background to the surroundings. NIKMAT OLALIM find themselves in everyday. But this is not a record of essays, rather six songs of tuneful punk with gruff vocals. Oil friendly songs that nod liberally to 80s DeutschPunk acts like SCLEIMKEIM or most of the shit Weird System has reissued in the last couple of years. Personally, I fucking love this...straight forward songs with to the point lyrics in Hebrew and English, with explanations as well. More. Please. (-Robert) (Boshet Records, www.gutzy.comboshet, Yaniv Geller, 43A Hagalil St. Apt. 26, Kfar Saba 44235 ISRAEL)

NO IDOLZ - SELF-TITLED 7" No Idols are from upstate New York and I've been hearing a lot of cool things about them, but up until very moment, I hadn't heard them. They play technical, chaotic hardcore, not unlike Black Widows/Black Cross. They are tight, intelligent, and seem like they have their shit together. I don't think this is the last thing we will here from these dudes. (Grave Mistake Records, P.O. Box 12482, Richmond, VA 23241/www.gravemistakerecords.com) - INT

NO...DEMO TAPE GOAT SHANTY/RASH OF BEATINGS axeman with yet another bass-free assault. NO song titles, NO easy listening, YES grind, YES powerviolence. Sadly this falls into my category of bands that would sound better if they added the "mis"ing instrument, but these two fellows hold their own quite nicely, and I'm glad to see them still holding strong. Fast as shit chaotic thrashing insanity sound good to you? Then you need NO. (-Robert) (523 Meigs Street, Athens, GA 30601, sharkear@hotmail.com)

NORTH LINCOLN-TRUTH IS A MENACE CD Upbeat fast paced melodic punk with gruff vocals and with lots of sing-a-long parts. It's not that surprising that this is on No Idea. This sounds reminiscent of label mates Hot Water Music but there is also hints of Jawbreaker and other 90's east bay bands. They take all these different influences and sounds and make them their own catchy melodic punk rock mash. The vocals are strained, horse and melodic in a Leatherface style. They work well with the pop punk guitar hooks. The artwork is awesome and adds to the whole aesthetic of this release. (No Idea Records/ PO Box 14636/ Gainesville, FL 32604 /noidearecords.com)/european)

NUISLAUGHTER - BURN THE CROSS This is metal up the satanic ass in an over the top package that has outer sleeve with a cut out upside down cross with flames, that looks in on the inside sleeve with the satanic lyrics and the full-color print of flames. While I can't say that I'm all that interested in the satanic cross burning crucifixion business as a subject for a band and lyrics, on a music level this is pretty fucking impressive. Thrash metal with a crunching drive, and totally gnarly death metal vocals that head into a black metal style. The vinyl is a nice splatter urine and blood color. If you wanna get down with some light fucking awesome metal all about satan, then this is probably what you'll want to check out. (First Blood Family/PO Box 11004/Portland OR 97211-4425 /Hells Headbangers/ 3493 Medina Rd. #109/ Medina OH 44256 /www.hellsheadbangers.com) (-Chris)

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ORDER OF THE VULTURE - CHRIST KILLER 7" So I read about this on a record distro list, decided that this could be my new favorite band and became completely obsessed with hearing them. From Portland, of course. Turned out it wasn't available to order and I went nuts with the need to hear them even more. Imagine my thrills when a few days later a review copy arrived in the mail!! Fuck yeah. As it turns out this is quite a bit more death-metal than I expected. Like evil black-metal/death metal gnarly shit

ment (who needs DC when I've got D4, "indeed"). Musically, PIB keep things tight and energetic, especially on the drums, but they branch out a little on this record to give a nod to punk bands that don't necessarily sound like Black Flag. This record

isn't the gleaming needle in the haystack of shitty punk bands, they're the spark to set that pile of hay on fire. Jade Tree never ceases to amaze! (Jade Tree Records, 2310 Kennwynn Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810 /www.jadetree.com) - TNT

PANORAMA KEEPS CRAWLING - MADE TO BE BROKEN LP I reviewed this in issue #81 when the vinyl was out on Unsociable and Sabotage Records. Now the CD is available and it comes in a DVD sized style package. I loved this the first time around and feel the same now. Dark heavy hardcore from Germany. A complex interwoven and layered mix of melancholic guitars that grate with distortion and dance with melody, with pummeling drums and guttural deep raspy vocals. The deep vocals, and dark lyrics go perfectly with the darkness of the music. To me this sounds like what I've come to know as the heavy discordant German hardcore, kinda like Zeroid. There's also a touch of His Hero Is Gone influence here too, in that PKC do know how to let out the dark mid-paced hardcore roots amongst all the discordant dark mania. Love it! (Civilisation Records/ Parkstrasse 39 89312 Gunzburg/Germany /www.civilisation-records.com/Per Koro Records/PO Box 102514/28025 Bremen/Germany/www.perkoro.de vinyl: www.unsociable.net) (-Chris)

PASCOW - GESCHICHTEN DE EINER SCRIB...CD1P Pascow are from Germany and they play German melodic punk rock. My German is a bit rusty, but from what I can figure out, their songs are about girls, the kid being assholes, burning Paris to the ground, and riding bikes. Musically, they sound like a mix between Samiam, Husker D., and Bad Religion. There is also a bonus video of their song "Trampen Nach Norden," which isn't on the album, but it's really good. (Cargo Records Germany, www.cargo-records.de) - TNT

PICTURE FRAME SEDUCTION - Sex War CD Though I was not familiar with this band that has been around off & on for over 20 years, I have their newest CD in my player. It is all over the place music-wise, from pissed & angry on the opening track to sounding like some drunken outtake from The Business back catalog of hits. The only thing that I didn't like was how out of touch some of the lyrics are, and in some places just plain neanderthal like on "Sex War": "You are my whore, what are you for, you are just my kind". Usually its newer bands that get stuck in a rut by having generic lyrics, but after 20 years, these guys need to improve in this department themselves. (Cult Jam Records, RY Media, PO Box 19, Gloucester, GL3 4YA UK) (Dave)

PIG DESTROYER-TERRIFYER Jesus H. Christ these motherfuckers are sooo sadistically fierce with an unrelenting attack that leaves you cowering in a corner, clawing at the wall. Stellar guitar work and creepy lyrics are what I crave from these bastards and they deliver in spades. Another exceptionally diverse mix of punk and metal styles that bring joy to the heart and pump adrenaline through the veins but bring nightmarish imagery when you close your eyes. Staggering follow-up to "Prowler in the Yard". Has to be easily one of the best Relapse releases of 2004. (RELAPSE RECORDS/PO Box 2060/Upper Darby, PA. 190082/www.relapse.com) (-Johnny)

PINK RAZORS - SCENE SUICIDE CD This is a local RVA band that plays a catchy style of pop punk that, while a departure to both the label that released it and the sort of thing I usually want to listen to, is pretty fucking good and addictive in an almost surprising way. It's raw and straight forward, but not raw in an "it sucks way," it's raw in a totally distorted and heavy, just bare bones straight forward way. This kinda reminds me of the current trend sweeping through of the retro punk. The vocal style is pretty snotty, but mostly delivered in a sung together chorus way, while the whole sound is just busted out with a frantic raw energy that is undeniable. The lyrics are stories and have a lot of local RVA references. Dare I say they skip right over the gimmicks and the trend, and just play from the heart and it shows even across the boundaries of genres and what you might think you usually like. I'm surprised and rather captivated. This band could be huge, they're got that kind of appeal and catchiness that is real. We could be seeing the next wave out of RVA! (Robotic Empire/PO Box 421/ Richmond VA 23220/roboticempire.com) (-Chris)

PITCH BLACK - THIS IS THE MODERN SOUND CD Indeed I feel like I totally missed something. I thought that Pitch Black was the new hardcore super group to save the world (oh, that was Paint It Black, duh). Pitch Black are from SF, debuted with a split CD with the Enemies a few years ago, and are now back with a more rounded out matured sound and they're totally amazing! The "modern sound" indeed. Earth shattering to my ears kinda like hearing Refused or the Phantom Limbs for the first time, not to say they sound like either. In fact, it's hard for me to describe their

Delivers a high powered speed bomb. A step forward.
- Suburban Voice

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Always kicking ass.
- Slug & Lettuce



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HEAVY AS HELL SLUDGE FILLED HARDCORE FROM PHILADELPHIA. THE BASS SOUNDS LIKE A BULLDOZER...LITERALLY...AND IT FEELS LIKE IT WILL MOW YOU OVER WITH EVERY NOTE. DOWNTUNED DESTRUCTION, FAST TO FASTER, AND THEN BLASTING OFF INTO CHAOS. STONER ROCK RIFFS INVADE THE SONGS FROM TIME TO TIME, AND IT'S OH SO GLORIOUS WHEN THEY DO: ABSOLUTELY CRUSHING. THEY USE THREE VOCALISTS. EACH DISTINCTIVE. THE FEMALE VOX ARE OVER THE TOP DEMONIC AND FUCKING GREAT WHILE THE DUDES JUST SOUND PLAIN PISSED. THERE'S ANOTHER EP FROM THIS RECORDING SESSION OUT AS WELL...GET EM BOTH. - ROBERT :: SLUG & LETTUCE #80



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ORDER OF THE VULTURE-CHRIST KILLER 7" So I read about this on a record distro list, decided that this could be my new favorite band and became completely obsessed with hearing them. From Portland, of course. Turned out it wasn't available to order and I went nuts with the need to hear them even more. Imagine my thrills when a few days later a review copy arrived in the mail! Fuck yeah! As it turns out this is quite a bit more death-metal than I expected. Like evil black-metal/death metal gnarly shit

themselves. (Cut Jam Records, RY Media, PO Box 19, Gloucester, GL3 4YA UK) (Dave)

PIG DESTROYER-TERRIFYER Jesus H. Christ these motherfuckers are sooo sadistically fierce with an unmitting attack that leaves you cowering in a corner, clawing at the wall. Stellar guitar work and creepy lyrics are what I crave from these bastards and they deliver in spades. Another exceptionally diverse mix of punk and metal styles that bring joy to the heart and pump adrenaline through the veins but bring nightmarish imagery when you close your eyes. Staggering follow-up to "Prowler in the Yard". Has to be easily one of the best Relapse releases of 2004. (RELAPSE RECORDS/POBox 2060/Upper Darby, PA, 190082/www.relapse.com) (-Johnny)

PINK RAZORS - SCENE SUICIDE CD This is a local RVA band that plays a catchy style of pop punk that, while a departure for both the label that released it and the sort of thing I usually want to listen to, is pretty fucking good and addictive in an almost surprising way. It's raw and straight forward, but not raw in an "it sucks way." raw in a not totally distorted and heavy, just bare bones straight forward way. This kinda reminds me of the current trend sweeping through of the retro punk. The vocal style is pretty snotty, but mostly delivered in a sung together chorus way, while the whole sound is just busted out with a frantic raw energy that is undeniable. The lyrics are stories and have a lot of local RVA references. Dare I say they skip right over the gimmicks and the trend, and just play from the heart and it shows even across the boundaries of genres and what you might think you usually like. I'm surprised and rather captivated. This band could be huge, they're got that kind of appeal and catchiness that is real. We could be seeing the next wave out of RVA! (Robotic Empire/PO Box 421/ Richmond VA 23220/roboticempire.com) (-Chris)

PITCH BLACK-THIS IS THE MODERN SOUND CD Indeed I feel like I totally missed something. I thought that Pitch Black was the new hardcore super group to save the world (oh, that was Paint It Black, duh). Pitch Black are from SF, debuted with a split CD with the Enemies a few years ago, and are now back with a more rounded out matured sound and they're totally amazing! The "modern sound" indeed. Earth shattering to my ears kinda like hearing Refused or the Phantom Limbs for the first time, not to say they sound like either. In fact, it's hard for me to describe their

SyzsJak

HEAVY AS HELL SLUDGE FILLED HARDCORE FROM PHILADELPHIA. THE BASS SOUNDS LIKE A BULLDOZER...LITERALLY...AND IT FEELS LIKE IT WILL MOW YOU OVER WITH EVERY NOTE. DOWNTUNED DESTRUCTION. FAST TO FASTER. AND THEN BLASTING OFF INTO CHAOS. STONER ROCK RIFTS INVADE THE SONGS FROM TIME TO TIME. AND IT'S OH SO GLORIOUS WHEN THEY DO: ABSOLUTELY CRUSHING. THEY USE THREE VOCALISTS, EACH DISTINCTIVE. THE FEMALE VOX ARE OVER THE TOP DEMONIC AND FUCKING GREAT WHILE THE DUDES JUST SOUND PLAIN PISSED. THERE'S ANOTHER EP FROM THIS RECORDING SESSION OUT AS WELL...GET 'EM BOTH.

-ROBERT : SLUG & LETTUCE #80



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MUSIC

sound, but it's got a retro throw-back quality to old new wave punk, with a barebones quality that has been grabbed by many of the new "The" bands in recent years. Yet Pitch Black have these amazing keyboards that add a whole new dimension, and a distinct vocal style, some clean guitar playing and this totally alluring quality that has just kicked me in the ass. Every so often a band comes along that lures me out of the confines of the genre's live with and kinda shatters everything wide open. Pitch Black have done that with this release. They've created something totally unique that can not be written off into any simple genre, or compared style. They draw from a lot of places, as I said, in a similar way that many bands these days are going retro, new wave and snuffed out, or getting down to bare bones garage style rock, with a dark death rock quality as well. But they've got an original spin on it that makes this stand out, having a staying power and an addictive quality that will keep me listening to this and obsessing for some time. This is one of those standout releases that could chart a whole new genre or direction in the trends of underground music Amazing!!! (www.RevelationRecords.com) (-Chris) ****

PIZZA CHEW - I WANT OUT DEMO So the dude from CRACKS, the Nowheresville, Illinois band who delivered my favorite demo from last year, has a new partner in crime, and they call themselves PIZZA CHEW. These six tunes are along the same lines: KBD punk delivered with mid level competency, an lyrics that fit perfectly with small town angst (like "At The Gas Station," and "Yellow Ribbons"). The second CRACKS demo was a bit of a disappointment, but this is back to the brilliance of the first tape. I do wonder what goes on in the head of Mr. Knowles; is he a pissed off teenager in his bedroom, making this music blindly because that's all he knows? Or is he (as I suspect) an eccentric adult who escapes his life in the doldrums with a guitar in one hand and a 4 track in the other? I suspect the latter, but the result is brilliant, so I'll just let my anthropology experiment continue into the next demo. But then again, I'm only a few hours away... maybe I can join his next project. Philip, call me. (-Robert) (Philip Knowles, 12780 E. 2200 Street, Atkinson, IL 61235 / pizzachew@hotmail.com)

PROJECT HOPELESS - KALLA JAVLA SAMHALLE LP This is rad Swedish heavy punk and I like everything about this band, especially the dual male/female (or so it sounds) harsh vocals. But the snare drum sound is so bad, so hollow and loud, it ends up making my head feel like it is going to split open and I want to stop the misery. This sucks cause if that snare drum was thrown from a cliff then I'd be raging on this band, which is what I want to be doing. I am the last person to get crazy critical on any kind of technical recording stuff. Usually when shit rocks, you can overlook it. But this snare drum thing is killing me. The rest of their sound has a ton of distortion and a thick quality, and the delivery is fast and adrenaline paced. This 3 piece band sings in Swedish but translates the themes which are socially conscious struggles. I want to hear this band again after they kill the snare drum. (Not Enough Records/Mailbox 1013/Lilla Kungsgatan 2/411 41 CGB Sweden) (-Chris)

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REASON OF INSANITY - \$7 LP The fact that this LP has about a hundred songs (okay not really) tells you that they play short and fast songs. They play the old-school hardcore thrash. But what's kinda cool about their style

to me like a band people would be eating up. Perhaps that's why they tell the "west bay to fuck off". These songs are fast and tight and ripping, pissed and gnarly to boot. The promo sheet calls this a "train wreck of pure fury", and I don't usually feel a need to quote, but I think that is pretty accurate. Not my new favorite band, but definitely one to stand up and take notice of. Cinder's got a rad voice. DIY and self released. (Bleeding Bitch Records/4096/Pedment Ave #216/Oakland CA 94611-5221)

RF 7-ADDITIONS AND HEARTACHE Big dudes with big, bouncy punk balls. Mildly reminiscent of Poison Idea at times but more Cali-fied with touches of D.I. and Suicidal as well. Cid school hardcore with similar sensibilities. Chunky and rifle with attitude but I wouldn't want a bear hug from these dudes because they ain't tiny nor is their music. (PUKE N VOMIT RECORDS/PO Box 3435/Fullerton, CA 92834) (-Johnny)

RIFU - Dead End Street CD Holy Shit! This is amazing! RIFU are a political punk/hardcore band from Norway. Musically, they sound like Propagandhi with a hint of Refused added to make things more interesting. All of their lyrics are about frustration with capitalism, the corporate music industry, and the meat industry. Their CD-booklet dons an army soldier in Coca-Cola camouflage, a graphic depicting the evolution of ape to man with shopping cart, and a mock action figure called Jihad Joe. They certainly have a sense of humor without coming off as gimmicky. (Go-Kart Records, P.O. Box 20, New York, NY 10012 / www.gokartrecords.com) -TNT

RIGHTEOUS JAMS - RAGE OF DISCIPLINE CD This re-issue comes less than a year after it came out originally on Broken Sounds Records, but with BS joining Kung Fu Records, so comes the 'new' version. This time it has a slightly different layout, but also enhanced video footage of RJ live. This band started out 'borrowing' songs from some of the members previous band INVASION, but then became a real band with songs of their own. Great singalong hardcore, with solid lyrics (a bit tongue-in-cheek at times), and excellent recording too. You can hear the old NYHC influence, but without the standard clichés often found with that sound/style. Great to see live too! And straight edge! (Kung Fu Records, PO Box 38009, Hollywood, CA 90038 www.kungfurecords.com) (Dave)

RISTETTYT - 2000-2005 CD Ristetyl are one of the legends of Finnish hardcore. In recent years they've been making new noise and they just toured the US. This is a collection of their latest stuff from the past 5 years and it's fucking awesome. They're not a band that I've followed since the 80s, but they did catch my ear in recent years, and grabbed me and I said "fuck yeah". I think that I can safely say that I prefer the newer material to the old (sic) and I think that when I saw them live they played a lot more of the older stuff cause listening to this collection on CD I'm losing my mind and when I say them, I can't say that I was. Perhaps if I'd been listening to this regularly before seeing them it would have been different. This is heavy and amazing! The D-beats are there, the metallic guitars are there, along with a full-throated rage and power. The vocals have a great harshness, which is pretty gnarly, which are accentuated by an echo in the recording. This is the fucking shit—in the form of a good solid long disk

bringing LPs and 7's of the past 5 years together and it's essential in my daily play list now. (Havoc/PO Box 8585/Mpls MN 55408/www.havocrecords.com) (-Chris) ****

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SCIENCE OF KARMA - SELF TITLED 7" You can read about Science of

ISKRA SF 1/05



As the name of the band implies there are lots of lyrics about romance (or failure of it). (Atomic Twang/1100/2/36th/SV/Baltimore MD 21211/atomicbooks.com) (european)

SEWN SHUT - Rediscovering The Dead 2001-2002 CD I've been waiting for this CD for awhile now. This is a collection of all their 7's and split 7's over the past year. Including the Split w/Squash Bowels, Split w/Embalming Theatre, split w/Ulcerhoax, split w/Mind Collage, split w/Man In Shackles, and songs from the Polargrinder Comp. LP. Sick Swedish Deathgrind, fans of old Napalm Death, Repulsion, even Haemorrhage, old Carracks, and Exhumed should check this out. It's the perfect soundtrack if someone were to kill someone! Don't miss out! (Selfmadegod, POB 46, 21500 Biala Podl. Poland) www.selfmadegod.com (Barrett)

SHACKLED DOWN - THE CREW Polish tough guy thrash. Youth crew riffing and breakdowns, but the speed of crossover metal. This actually sounds like a metal band got a "New Wind" Kevin Seconds soundalike and a backing crew for the mosh parts, and played the Greatest Hits of Hardcore at warp speed (SD features PIGNATION dudes, so perhaps that not far off). Totally solid...fast thrashing hardcore mania, dude. (-Robert) (SelfMadeGod, PO Box 46, 21500 Biala Podl. POLAND)

SIBERIA - EVERYBODY DIES 7" I think I knew from the riff metallic riffing note on this that I was gonna love it. For such metal, the production is kinda low, but then again

that also gives it a bit more of an underground feeling as opposed to an all out metal band's record. The screaming vocals add to that feeling/sound as well. The riffle is awesome. Chuggy and raging with some great monster riffs. Kinda Slayer meets Darkest Hour like, but then faster and more thrashy and more discordant, screaming and painfully insane. I like the lyrics too - about terrorists, depressed insanity, faithless cruelty and workerbees. I've gotten pretty tired of the rehashing of metallic emo hardcore, but Siberia take those elements and make something refreshing and amazing and delightful to the dark cold part of me that eats this up. (www.greyskyrecords.com) (-Chris)

SINAL BEACH - IMMERSED CD I was intrigued by this metallic hardcore, then I was repulsed, and then finally decided that this was pretty fucking good. The production on this is huge and loud. It's super fucking metal and you can't read the band name and it has a goat bird snake demon on the cover. What I ended up liking about this is that it is a cross between metallic hardcore, straight up metal and rock that leans to the contemporaries of ATP, especially when the vocals trade off from the deep guttural screams and go into the rock singing (unlike the emo sing-songy shit that everyone's been doing lately). This makes me think more of Kyuss, and it works and actually makes this stand out as being pretty interesting. They're heavy as fuck and totally metal-core, and as I often mention the one who gets into this genre, but has generally gotten over it and bored: this band has captivated me. But should it come as a big surprise that they thank not just God, but Lord Jesus Christ. I really like my metal to NOT be about god. (Victory Records) (-Chris)

SLAANESH - EXITUS ACTA PROBA CD Italian band mixing metal tempo with punk rock 'tude. It seems to be goofy in theme, though the vocals are in Italian, so I don't know for sure? Pretty basic songs, except for one called "Nashville Pussy", which was a cover of NP's "Fried Chicken & Coffee" (and a kinda weird idea to cover a band that's a cover band). (www.slaanesh.com) (-Chris)

SPLITTING THE SKY - A LIFETIME OF RESISTANCE WITH MUSIC BY BLACKFEIRE CD This is a recording of a talk by Native American activist John "Splitting the Sky" Hill. This mans words are angry and intense. He tells his life story from growing up and being taken away from his mother to his life on the streets to his time in prison to his politicization and so much more. The focus of this talk is the horror of the Africa prison rebellion and massacre. This is one of the most terrible and beautiful



not at all a typical record. The live set, also from 2001, is of mediocre quality, but you get gems spanning their whole career. Don't know what they are up to now, if anything, but this album is well deserving of all the exposure it can get. (-Robert) (Schizophrenic, 17 W. 4th Street, Hamilton, Ontario CANADA L9C 3M2)

SLAUGHTERHOUSE 57 - Fuck Tomorrow CD This has some elements I liked, in that its meaty & at times rockin, with some street punk thrown in. It lost my attention with the monotone vocals though, since the songs seemed to follow paths already made, breaking no real new ground for my tastes. (www.slaughterhouse57.co.uk) (Dave)

SLEDEGAMMER - YOUR ARSONIST CD This is the new band from DWID of Integrity, formed after relocating to Belgium. This takes a swerve away from the trademark Integ sound, but stays in the metallica-realm that Integ helped pioneer to their hardcore fanbase. His snarled vocals are here, but the music doesn't pack as much of a punch. Its good, but I will take a good yell of "Micha" instead any day of the week. (Martyr Records, PO Box 955, Harriman, NY 10926 www.martyrrecords.com) (Dave)

SLICKS - MY HOUSEHOLD REMEDY 7" 4 songs taping into the fast-for-fasts sake category shared by bands like Zekes & early Gang Green too. Not anything I am not used to hearing from this genre, but since I wasn't familiar with this band prior to hearing this 7", it was a pleasant surprise. Tight & clean recording helps, but the songs do sound a little too alike. The sleeve printing made the title of the release almost unreadable as well, and the lyrics are handwritten, and would have looked better typed, in my opinion. (Not Enough Records, Mailbox 1013, Lilla Kungsgata 2, 411 41 GBG Sweden www.not-enough-records.cjb.net) (Dave)

SMOKE OR FIRE - ABOVE THE CITY CD This is seriously one of the best records I've heard in years. I could be saying that because these guys are my pals. I could also be saying that because this record has the same color-scheme as Lifetime's Jersey's Best Dancers. I could also be saying that because these guys are doing their best to keep the punk alive in my hometown. But, I'm really saying it because, even if you remove all of those other factors, this record is catchy, sincere, political, emotional, personal, and just really fucking good. These guys work really hard and have had to put up with a lot of bullshit (including being sued by a defunct Christian rock band) to get where they are. They draw influences from bands like Hot Water Music, Avail, Lucero, Against Me!, and Bruce Springsteen. They have toured relentlessly (under their old moniker Jericho - before they got sued—and they are about to head out on a fifty-state tour of the US with Against Me! I'm so stoked for this record. It hasn't left my CD player for longer than a couple of hours in two months. (Fat Wreck Chords, P.O. Box 133690, San Francisco, CA 94119 / www.fatwreck.com) -TNT

SNUFF - SIX OF ONE... 2XCD What can you say about a band that has been around since 1986 that hasn't already been said? Chances are you have heard them, or at least heard of them... This is a great collection of 'hits' as well as TONS of b-sides/rarities/unreleased stuff, more than any Snuff fan could probably even take in one sitting. 50 songs, and well worth checking out if you have been curious about them or want to hear some tunes you never got a chance to hear before as well. My god... they even cover 'Don't Fear The Reaper'... b-i-z-a-r-r-e! The insert/booklet is jam-packed too, which was good to check out while rockin out. (Fat Wreck Chords, PO Box 133690, San Francisco, CA 94119 / www.fatwreck.com) (Dave)

SPINNING HEADS - CHANGE THE GAME LP I thought that the French metallic hardcore band might be right up my alley, but in fact I don't like this at all. They're very tech oriented with offbeat timings and disjointed mathy delivery which just makes me angry and angry. They're super heavy and the metallic power is right on. But the way they spin it together would be more for fans of Isis or the like I guess. (The little sticker says "fans of Isis and Lack" but I love Lack, can do without Isis). They've got driving rhythms and super gruff screaming vocals. The whole sound is thick and distorted, and there is a strong rockin' energy underneath the detailed guitar picking. I just have to pass for my own ears. (\$8.50ppr. Sedition Records/PO Box 4043 Bethlehem PA 18018 / Spacement Records/5120 Leibebury Way/Reno NV 89523) (-Chris)

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Or is he (as I suspect) and eccentric adult who escapes his life in the dormitum with a guitar in one hand and a crack in the other? I suspect the latter, but the result is brilliant, so I'll just let my anthropology experiment continue into the next demo. But then again, I'm only a few hours away... maybe I can join his next project. Philip, call me. (-Robert) (Philip Knowles, 12780 E 2200 Street, Atkinson, IL 61235 / pizazzchew@hotmail.com)

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REASON OF INSANITY - ST LP The fact that this LP has about a hundred songs (okay not really) tells you that they play short and fast songs. They play the old-school hardcore thrash. But what is kinda cool about their style

is that it's not all blistering mayhem and really not manic at all. They have plenty of mid-tempo catchiness mixed into the thrashing speed. In other words this is old school fast hardcore, straight forward and to the point. Energetic, catchy hardcore that isn't overly political or mindless either. No lyrics are included. And no label information or address included either. Duh! (-Chris)

RETCHING RED - GET YOUR RED WINGS CD This is a newish Oakland band with Cinder on vocals and Oppressed Logic and Strychnine members delivering the licks. Cinder's vocals are strong and tough and the songs are heavy, powerful and delivered with a catchy adrenaline. I got to see them when I was in SF and I was surprised that hardly anyone was at the show or seemed to care, cause they seemed

20, New York, NY 10127 www.gokanrecords.com) - TNT
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SCIENCE OF YABRA - SELF-TITLED 7" I can't tell you very much about Science of Yabra, but they play pretty good, melodic punk with lots of jangly guitars. They have kind of a sped up Rites of Spring feel to them. Two songs and a really awesome cover with a bunch of bees flying out of a guy's ear, or rather the hole where his ear used to be. (Grey Sky Records, 1631 NE Broadway #109, Portland, OR 97232) - TNT

SECRET CRUSH SOCIETY-BALTIMORE CHAPTER CD This kind of reminds me of Blondie minus the disco. It's female fronted simple pop rock and roll. The music is pretty mellow and slow to medium tempo throughout the entire album. The centerpiece of the recording is the lead singers vocals. They are pretty impressive. They go from quiet and calm, to dramatic and loud. She uses a pretty broad range here.



by bands like ZONE & early GANG GREEN too. Not anything I am not used to hearing from this genre, but since I wasn't familiar with this band prior to hearing this 7", it was a pleasant surprise. Tight & clean recording helps, but the songs do sound a little too alike. The sleeve printing made the title of the release almost unreadable as well, and the lyrics are handwritten, and would have looked better typed, in my opinion. (Not Enough Records, Mailbox 1013, Lilla Kungsgata 2, 411 41 GBG Sweden www.not-enough-records.cjb.net) (Dave)

SMOKE OR FIRE - ABOVE THE CITY CD: This is seriously one of the best records I've heard in years. I could be saying that because these guys are my pals. I could also be saying that because this record has the same color-scheme as Lifetime's Jersey's Best Dancers. I could also be saying that because these guys are doing their best to keep the punk alive in my hometown. But, I'm really saying it because, even if you remove all of those other factors, this record is catchy, sincere, political, emotional, personal, and just really fucking good. These guys work really hard and have had to put up with a lot of bullshit (including being sued by a defunct Christian rock band) to get where they are. They draw influences from bands like Hot Water Music, Avail, Lucero, Against Me!, and Bruce Springsteen. They have toured relentlessly (under their old moniker Jericho - before they got sued—and they are about to head out on a fifty-state tour of the US with Against Me! I'm so stoked for this record. It hasn't left my CD player for longer than a couple of hours in two months. (Fat Wreck Chords, P.O. Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119 / www.fatwreck.com) - TNT

SNUFF - SIX OF ONE, 2XCD What can you say about a band that has been around since 1987 that hasn't already been said? Chances are you have heard them, or at least heard of them... This is a great collection of 'hits' as well as TONS of b-sides/antics/unreleased stuff, more than any Snuff fan could probably even take in one sitting. 50 songs, and well worth checking out if you have been curious about them or want to hear some tunes you never got a chance to hear before as well. My god... they even cover 'Don't Fear The Reaper'... b-i-z-a-r-r-e! The insert/booklet is jam-packed too, which was good to check out while rockin' out. (Fat Wreck Chords, P.O. Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119 / www.fatwreck.com) (Dave)

SPINNING HEADS - CHANGE THE GAME LP I thought that this French metallic hardcore band might be right up my

alley, but in fact I don't like this at all. They're very tech oriented with offbeat timings and disjointed matty delivery which just makes me angry and angry. They're super heavy and the metallic power is right on. But the way they spin it together would be more for fans of ILS or the like I guess. (The little sticker says "fans of Isis and Lack" but I love Lack, can do without Isis). They've got driving rhythms and super gruff screaming vocals. The whole sound is thick and distorted, and there is a strong rockin' energy underneath the detailed guitar picking. I just have to pass for my own ears. (\$8.50 ppd to Sedition Records' PO Box 4043/ Bethlehem PA 18018/ Spacement Records' 5120 Idlebury Way/ Reno NV 89523) (-Chris)

SLAANESH - EXITUS ACTA PROBA CD Italian band mixing metal tempo with punk rock 'tude. It seems to be goofy in theme, though the vocals are in Italian, so I don't know for sure?!! Pretty basic songs, except for one called "Nashville Pussy", which was a cover of NP's "Fried Chicken & Coffee" (and a kinda weird idea to cover a band that isn't broken up). Decent, but not a 'must hear' in my opinion. (Mass Productions, 19 Rue Malagut, 35000 Rennes, France www.massprod.com) (Dave)

SLANG

SKILLED RHYTHM KILLS + LIVE AT KUBLAI COUNTER ACTION CD Sapporo veterans SLANG have been at it since 89, and this is their best work. SLANG moved from a rather typical NYHC sounding band at the start (even releasing splits with geniuses like 25 TA LIFE and DROPKICK MURPHYS), to the blistering force that unleashed "Skilled Rhythm Kills," which was released in 2001. Take the best elements of those hardcore roots, and throw in loads of blazing thrash, add galloping apocalyptic punk, and sprinkle some killer metal riffs where they are needed, and fuck this record is a monster. Very Japanese sounding vocals (in the FORWARD/PAINTBOX sense), but

SPLITTING THE SKY-A LIFETIME OF RESISTANCE WITH MUSIC BY BLACKFIRE CD This is a recording of a talk by Native American activist John "Splitting the Sky" Hill. This mans words are angry and intense. He tells his life story from growing up and being taken away from his mother to his life on the streets to his time in prison to his politicization and so much more. The focus of this talk is the horror of the Atica prison rebellion and massacre. This is one of the most terrible and beautiful stories. The massacre, treatment, and conditions of the prison is all sickening but the story of the resistance and fight is amazing. There is so much more discussed here though from later Native American resistance in NY and Canada to the attempts of using John as a scapegoat in a guards death in Atica. John is an intense story teller and his story is accompanied by two songs by Blackfire who are probably the only punk band I can imagine fitting in on this CD. This CD is a benefit for prisoner support so buy it! (\$11 ppd) Break the Chains' PO Box 1212/ Eugene, OR 97440) (european)

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ISKRA - SEA 1/05

is that it's not all blistering mayhem and really not manic at all. They have plenty of mid-tempo catchiness mixed into the thrashing speed. In other words this is old school fast hardcore, straight forward and to the point. Energetic, catchy hardcore that isn't overly political or mindless either. No lyrics are included. And no label information or address included either. Duh! (-Chris)

RETCHING RED - GET YOUR RED WINGS CD This is a newish Oakland band with Cinder on vocals and Oppressed Logic and Strychnine members delivering the licks. Cinder's vocals are strong and tough and the songs are heavy, powerful and delivered with a catchy adrenaline. I got to see them when I was in SF and I was surprised that hardly anyone was at the show or seemed to care, cause they seemed



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June 12	Birmingham, ALThe Nick
June 13	Hickory, NCWizard Saloon

you love mail in the link below, letter isn't key (\$3.50 ppd. Sick of Talk Records PO Box 9723 Reno, NV 89507) (dug)

PUNKORA-BOMBAS DE DEMOCRACIA CD This is fun Spanish street punk sounding rock from Chile. I like it. The vocals are more talked than sung. They also have awesome melodic bass fills throughout the entire recording with simple guitar and drums. They are certainly anti-American government and very political in general. It's frequently that I started hearing more punk from south America and I generally like it a lot especially this more street punk sounding stuff that reminds me of the bands I've seen in Spain. Most of the booklet is in Spanish but luckily for me the lyrics are translated to English. They are really good at talking shit on the police. (Santiago de Chilo www.punkora.cjb.net/) (european)

REASON OF INSANITY - S/T LP The fact that this LP has about a hundred songs (okay not really) tells you that they play short and fast songs. They play the old-school hardcore thrash. But what is kinda cool about their style

is that it's not all blistering mayhem and really not manic at all. They have plenty of mid-tempo catchiness mixed into the thrashing speed. In other words this is old school fast hardcore, straight forward and to the point. Energetic, catchy hardcore that isn't overtly political or mindless either. No lyrics are included. And no label information or address included either. Duh! (-Chris)

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(-Robert) (c/o Jelt, 3313 Jahon Ct., Rosamond, CA 93560)

SAFE INSIDE - S/T EP After getting over being speechless, I'm stuck trying to explain my intense love for these 14 songs. Fast ass catchy distortion free punk, with the snottiest vocals this side of CHARLES BRONSON. Jerks stops rocks rolls noise CHAOS glorious chaos. Song titles like, "Ouch Assholes, You're Stepping On Me," and "Man You Fucking Suck," offer a misleading look into the lyrical content. These guys are fucking pissed. And evidently not in an ironic fashionable way. There is real fucking passion here, real fury. Hardcore punk at it's finest. I have to tear myself away to review the next record, which with undoubtedly be not as great as this one. FUCKED UP on crack. Lots of crack. Best record of the evening, hands down. Get it. (-Robert) (Black Matter, PO Box 666 Troy, NY 12181)

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and throttled to the point to massive heaviness, with an ire from Canada like quality of the dark and heavy combination of metallic drive and melodic guitar riffs. The vocals are scream and the music is fast. At times super fucking crazy fast guitar riffs fly, and then it all gets more epic and swoony and then discordant and manic. The Gammitis are more straight forward punk, played tight fast and to the point. Moderate vocals and catchy fast hardcore punk songs all around. Dual vocals, back up style and sing alongs. Good catchy songs. These bands are totally different but I like both of them and it makes for a good sincere feeling split. (Noah Kelly/1370 W. Prairie Ct. Olathe KS 66061) (-Chris)

Split: ACHILLES / ENGINEER - SPLIT 2XCD: Achilles play very technical, heavy hardcore ala Breather Resist or Harkonen. Their very personal lyrics are about fading into obscurity, failure, and struggle. Engineer play slightly less technical, heavy hardcore ala Botch or Converge. Their songs are about paving the oceans, television and having thick skin. Both bands are from upstate New York. This is one of those splits where each band gets their own CD. I've noticed that the only split releases in this format are the ones where both of the bands are good and you might actually want to listen to both bands (see Breather Resist/Suicide Note split). This CD has excellent packaging, by the way. (Hex Records, 201 Maple Lane, N. Syracuse NY 13212 / www.hanginghex.com) -TNT

Split: BAFABEGIA / GREYSKULL 7" Babafagia play fast paced hardcore punk. They are raw and old school sounding. Their simple guitar leads fits this style perfectly. Their lyrics hail riding, dancing, and an overall DIY ethic. Greyskull are mid paced punk hardcore that have a Tragedy type sound to them. They don't sound exactly like them but they have that melodic edge that Tragedy has popularized. They have a song called "Fuck Atkins Diet" which a huge carb fan I feel should be said as loud as possible. Both these bands have different styles but they pull off what they do well and the packaging is nice. (Spaceman Records/269 Wonder St/Reno, NV 89502 / spaceman.com) (european)

Split: BENT OUTTA SHAPE / DRUNK BOAT 7" Dirty dirty dirty pop punk. Both bands seem to be heavily influenced by that famous East Bay melodic punk sound in their own way. Bent Outta Shape are from the capital of hipsterism, Brooklyn NY, and deliver three more songs just as rocking as their LP. Songs about betrayal, drunken romances, and drug addiction on the streets to of NYC. Two of the songs are more of the same crazy guitar driven mayhem that some how comes together to make perfectly catchy pop punk classics and the third is one from the 12" played acoustic. I knew what to expect with the Bent side so I was prepared to be slightly disappointed with whoever they teamed up with but instead it was completely blown away. Drunk Boat play catchy as hell punk rock with dual male female vocals which harmonize in a very imperfect way that make them sound so amazing. The bass heavy recording gives these three songs a bouncy feel which offsets the slightly melancholic tone of everything else. Missing them on the east coast this winter still makes me twinge with regret every time I think about it. If you like Crimpshrine or dirty pop punk in general you should own this. (\$3.50ppd/Drunk Records/15 Bayview Ave / Islip, NY 11751) (european)

Split: DEFIANCE / OHIO ONE REASON 7" Defiance Ohio play banjo and fiddle driven acoustic punk. On their side they have one new one "Motion" about the wonders and joys of touring and one older number "Promises" which I've heard already on a different recording. This recording of "Promises" sounds like it was recorded live. This band has that sound that just makes you want to sing along with the record and these songs are no different. One Reason on this recording sound much more mellow or even emo then what I've previously heard. To be fair to them most of my prior experience with this band has been live shows but these songs are

definitely more sullen and intricate then rocking but that's not to say worse because they are great but just more melodic and slower then others I've heard. Both sides of this are excellent and if you like either band you will want to own this. (Anti-Creative Records/PO Box 1528/ Upland, CA 91785 / anti-creative.com) (european)

NEWGENICS 7" This is rock and roll with a punk feel and attitude. This ex Guyana Punch Line and Inv' humanity band offer up two songs of blazing shouted rock. It seems more like Confederate Fag (which I think has members of this band as well) then the aforementioned bands. It kind of reminds of in your face indy rock that's totally dance-able. The lyrics are sort of political in a fun quirky way and they are translated into a few languages which is cool. (Hyperrealist/PO Box 9312/Savannah, GA 31412 / hyperrealist.com) (european)

Split: BIRDFLESH / CATHETER - Time To Face Extinction Split CD Birdflesh from Sweden start us off with new Brutal tracks of very intense unique Grindcore with titles like "Mongo Business", "Trapped In The Ass Of The Dead" and "Wildpig Massacre" show that they still have their own sense of humour. In the vein of Nasum, Regurgitate, etc... Then we have Colorado's Catheter coming at us with new tracks including a Cryptic Slaughter cover song! Easily their best and most Brutal release to date, sick death/grinding madness! In the vein of the great Terrorizer, Nasum, etc. Great release!!!!

124 Ottawa Ave. South, Mpls. MN 55416 (Barrett)

Split: FOURTEEN OR FIGHT / THE REPOS SPLIT EP Sweet sweet Chicago and their hardcore bands 14 OR FIGHT just played their last show at Chicago fest (they niled)

and took this split in their own way. Miserable records as always. For more info that

Split: DEADSTOCK / DUCKBOMB 2005 SUMMER "WE HAVE MORE FUN THEN YOU" TOUR BENEFIT SPLIT CDR I was pretty sure Chris was trying to pawn this off on me when I got this in a package for review it's a CDR (I really hate them) with some of the most primitive artwork I've ever seen on a release. Luckily for me the music is actually really good. Both bands are from West Michigan and play punk/hardcore with a 90's feel to it. Deadstock have a slightly more metal edge and sound a little more polished. The lyrics are about consumerism, Satan, riding bikes and lots more. I love the huge chorus's in the vocals. Duckbomb have the sillier name and are more crusty sounding. It's faster and dirtier then the first half. They even have a song about not taking showers. (abccookiesrule@hotmail.com/ pullmysocks@hotmail.com)

Split: DES_ARK / BELLAFEA 7" Both

these bands are guitar and drum duo's and they both offer up a song each. Des_Ark play arty slow paced rock that almost has a joy division type feeling mostly because of the drumming though. Bellafea side is way more haunting then the first half. This is way sad music with slightly distorted female vocals. It begins very

slow and then builds up to something rocking in a Godspeed sort of way. (Exotic Fever Records/PO Box 297/College Park, MD 20741-0297/exoticfever.com) (european)

Split: DISCLOSE / BESTOVEN - SPLIT 7" D-beat raw punk. For all the jokes on the d-beat, dis- that, Disclose are the coup d'etat on that. To be honest, I think it's pretty fucking terrible. But most of my friends pee their pants over this shit. Disclose are from Japan and they keep dis-nightmare continuing. Totally blown out fuzz and distortion powerhouse of heaviness and d-beats with shouted vocals that are the terrible part in my opinion. Bestoven are from Brazil and are the dis-beat crust horror core

keeping, totally dis-cimex style. (I am paraphrasing). Much less fuzzed out distortion and better vocal tonation, but this still sounds like Jap-core worship. I can personally get more into Bestoven than Disclose. Bottom line is sometimes I think I might be missing out, and in fact I am, but it's okay. Those who love this shit generally know it, and if you are one, then you need this split of two dis-masters on white vinyl. (Cries of Pain/PO Box 1004/Windsor CT 06095 / criesofpainrecs@hotmail.com) (-Chris)

Split: DOMINATRIX / THE HAGGARD 7" Both these bands are all female queer core. They also both have a similar feel to them that other bands from this genre have which kind of reminds me of Team Dresch and others but their sounds are completely different. Dominatrix are from Brazil and they are catchy with maybe even a bit of an emo feel and sound not unlike above mentioned Team Dresch. The Haggard are from Portland and are faster and heavier. They have a crust punk sound the goes from fast and frantic to slow breakdowns. Unlike most crust punk though both of their songs on this 7" are love songs. I like both sides of this especially how both bands are so different yet similar at the same time. (Vida Loca Records/ Casella Postale 17033/00189 Roma Grottarossa/Roma Italy / vidalocarecords.com) (european)

Split: EXOPHOTIC GOITER / OVERFLOWING FEAR - SPLIT CDR Here we have a number hand release limited to 100 copies. Starting us off is Exophotic Goiter, 12 tracks of tape deck recorded Brutal Gore/grind. Very short songs, in the vein of Gut, S.M.E.S., Kots, Libido Airbag, etc. Ultra-deep gurgle vocals, over a blasting drum machine, sick shit!! Glad I got to review it. I would like to hear more! Then we have Overflowing Fear, this is simply noise, I really don't get the whole Experimental noise thing, to me it's just a waste of CD space. But fans of underground Gore/grind, don't miss out on Exophotic Goiter!! (MRS Records, o/c David Heidinger)

Split: HOMBRINUS DUDES / LOADED FOR BEAR - Split CDR (in DVD packaging) H.D. start us out w/ 4 pretty Brutal tracks of extreme Death/grind, w/ some circle-pit breakdowns. Featuring ex-members of Forever Youth (which I haven't heard) Songs are about a minute long, but they get their point across, very intense, back and forth vocals, deep to screams. I also hear a "Scum" era Napalm Death influence, total blasting, then a groove breakdown. Good shit, I would like to hear more!!! Then we have Chicago based band Loaded For Bear, which play a mix of Hardcore & grind. Mid-ranged gruff vocals, over blasting drums, w/ your "Pick-up change" styled breakdowns, not really my style. (Contact: geniusgza1@aol.com / bloodmoneydistro@yahoo.com) (Barrett)

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what they do very well and the packaging is nice. (Spacement Records/269 Wonder St./Reno, NV 89502 /spacement.com) (european)

Split: BENT OUTTA SHAPE/DRUNK BOAT? "Dirty dirty dirty pop punk. Both bands seem to be heavily influenced by that famous East Bay melodic punk sound in their own way. Bent Outta Shape are from the capital of hipsterism, Brooklyn NY, and deliver three more songs just as rocking as their LP. Songs about betrayal, drunken romances, and drug addiction on the streets to of NYC. Two of the songs are more of the same crazy guitar driven mayhem that some how comes together to make perfectly catchy pop punk classics and the third is one from the 12" played acoustic. I knew what to expect with the Bent side so I was prepared to be slightly disappointed with whoever they teamed up with but instead I was completely blown away. Drunk Boat play catchy as hell punk rock with dual male female vocals which harmonize in a very imperfect way that make them sound so amazing. The bass heavy recordings give these three songs a bouncy feel which offsets the slightly melancholic tone of everything else. Missing them on the east coast this winter still makes me twinge with regret every time I think about it. If you like Crimpshrine or dirty pop punk in general you should own this. (\$3.50ppd/ Drunk Tank Records/15 Bayview Ave /Islip, NY 11751) (european)

Split: DEFIANCE OHIO/ONE REASON 7" Defiance Ohio play banjo and fiddle driven acoustic punk. On their side they have one new one "Motion" about the wonders and joys of touring and one older number "Promises" which I've heard already on a different recording. This recording of "Promises" sounds like it was recorded live. This band has that sound that just makes you want to sing along with the record and these songs are no different. One Reason on this recording sound much more mellow or even emo then what I've previously heard. To be fair to them most of my prior experience with this band has been live shows but these songs are definitely more sullen and intricate then rocking but that's not to say worse because they are great but just more melodic and slower then others I've heard. Both sides of this are excellent and if you like either band you will want to own this. (Anti-Creative Records/PO Box 1528/ Upland, CA 91785 / anti-creative.com) (european)

NEWGENICS 7" This is rock and roll with a punk feel and attitude. The ex Guyana Punch Line and In' humanity band offer up songs of blazing shouted rock. It seems more Confederate Fag (which I think has members of this band as well) then the aforementioned bands. It kind of reminds of in your face indy rock that's totally dance-able. The lyrics are sort of political in a fun quirky way and they are translated into a few languages which is cool. (Hyperrealist/PO Box 9313/Savannah, GA 31412/hyperrealist.com) (european)

Split: BIRDFLESH / CATHETER- Time To Face Execution Split CD Birdflesh from Sweden start us off w/ 10 brand new Brutal tracks of very intense unique Grindcore w/ titles like "Mongo Business", "Trapped In The Ass Of The Dead" and "Wildpig Massacre" show that they still have their own sense of humour.. in the vein of Nasum, Regurgitate, etc.. Then we have Colorado's Catheter coming at us w/ 6 new tracks including a Cryptic Slaughter cover song!! Easily their best and most Brutal release to date, sick deathgrinding madness!! In the vein of the great Terrorizer, Nasum, etc.. Great release!!!! (www.civilisation-records.com) (Barrett)

Split: BLOWN TO BITS/DEATHTOLL SPLIT LP Bullets and studs crust punk from the Bay area. BLOWN TO BITS have several releases under their belts, and these seven ditties (including a D Beat free CRUDE SS cover) show them coming into their own as a fist in the air attack. DEATHTOLL (x-ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT, dude) take a faster, fuller more basic approach that reminds me of mid-1990s east coast shits like BRUTALLY FAMILIAR or even DISSENSION without the grind. Top notch start to finish. (Robert) (Despotic Records, PO Box 832, Long Beach, CA 90801)

is way sad music with slightly distorted female vocals. It begins very slow and then builds up to something rocking in a Godspeed sort of way. (Exotic Fever Records/PO Box 297/ College Park, MD 20741-0297/exoticfever.com) (european)

Split: DISCLOSE/BESTOVEN - SPLIT 7" D-beat raw punk. For all of the jokes on the d-beat, dis-that, Disclose are the coup d'etat on that. To be honest, I think it's pretty fucking terrible. But most of my friends pee their pants over this shit. Disclose are from Japan and they keep dis-nightmare continuing. Totally blown out fuzz and distortion powerhouse of heaviness and d-beats with shouted vocals that are the terrible part in my opinion. Bestoven are from Brazil and are the dis-beat crust horror core

keeping, totally dis-cimex style. (I am paraphrasing). Much less fuzzed out distortion and better vocal tonation, but this still sounds like Jap-core worship. I can personally get more into Bestoven than Disclose. Bottom line is sometimes I think I might be missing out, and in fact I am, but it's okay. Those who love this shit generally know it, and if you are one, then you need this split of two dis-masters on white vinyl. (Chris) (european)

Split: DOMINATRIX/THE HAGGARD 7" Both these bands are all female queer core. They also both have a similar feel to them that other bands from this genre have which kind of reminds me of Team Dresch and others but their sounds are completely different. Dominatrix are from Brazil and they are catchy with maybe even a bit of an emo feel and sound not unlike above mentioned Team Dresch. The Haggard are from Portland and are faster and heavier. They have a crust punk sound that goes from fast and frantic to slow breakdowns. Unlike most crust punk though both of their songs on this 7" are love songs. I like both sides of this especially how both bands are so different yet similar at the same time. (Vida Loca Records/Casella Postale 1703/00189 Roma Grottarossa/Roma Italy/vidalocarecords.com) (european)

Split: EXOPHOTIC GOITER / OVERFLOWING FEAR- Split CDR Here we have a hand numbered release limited to 100 copies. Starting us off is Exophotic Goiter, 12 tracks of tape deck recorded Brutal Goregrind. Very short songs, in the vein of Gut, S.M.E.S., Kots, Libido Airbag, etc. Ultra-deep gurgle vocals, over a blasting drum machine, sick shit!! Glad I got to review it! Would like to hear more! Then we have Overflowing Fear, this is simply noise, I really don't get the whole Experimental noise thing, to me it's just a waste of CD space. But fans of underground Goregrind, don't miss out on Exophotic Goiter!! (MRS Records, c/o David Heidinger, 124 Ottawa Ave. South, Mpls. MN 55416) (Barrett)

Split: FOURTEEN OR FIGHT / THE REPOS SPLIT EP Sweet sweet Chicago and her hardcore bands. 14 OR FIGHT just played their last show at ChicagoFest (they ruled), and I think this split is their swan song. Midwestern punk at its finest, four songs that never blast, but always rage, and "Revenge Of The Latchkey Kids" is the most lifestyle affirming song anyone has written in a long long time. THE REPOS are awesome. They rock enough to play the cool pants rock and roll show on the right side of the tracks, and make the Betty Boops swoon, but savage enough to annihilate a room full of bullet belt elitists. Seven songs on a side, fucking destroy. I'm out of words, but I still think this record is god. (Robert) (Gloom, PO Box 14253, Albany, NY 12212)

Split: FRUIT SALAD/TERMINAL YOUTH SPLIT EP FRUIT SALAD are high pitched

companions wanting to come out of my mouth, but it's only appropriate in the feeling that I get listening to this. Ex-INTENSE YOUTH, but that does not even come close to describing the two piece cacophony contained herein. Illinois END ME are sure to announce that "all songs are improvisations," and for folks who like drawn out jams, this is perfect. There are fast bits that peek out occasionally, but basically there's more shoegazing, less rock, less chaos. Worth it for FUCKEDUPMESS, but another man might say exactly the opposite...two sides for two tastes. (Robert) (\$3 ppd, Andy Perlman, PO Box 10223, Pittsburgh, PA 15232)

Split: GODSTOMPER/WATCH ME BURN- Split 7" 1st we have Godstomper, 2 man project from California, Mid-paced to fast crust/punk/grind. Very short songs! Not really much to it, Then we have Watch Me Burn, screaming sludge/grind, 2 new songs, and 2 songs from their demo. I'm not impressed w/ this. (Contact: Cesspool Records, 985 Bidwell Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (Barrett)

Split: HOMBRINUS DUDES/LOADED FOR BEAR- Split 7" This is the 7" version of the CDR. H.D. start us out w/ 4 pretty Brutal tracks of extreme Death/grind, w/ some circle-pit breakdowns. Featuring ex-members of Forever Youth (which I haven't heard) Songs are about a minute long, but they get their point across, very intense, back and forth vocals, deep to screams. I also hear a "Scum" era Napalm Death influence, total blasting, then a groove breakdown. Good shit, I would like to hear more!!! Then we have Chicago based band Loaded For Bear, which play a mix of Hardcore & grind. Mid-ranged gruff vocals, over blasting drums, w/ your "Pick-up change" styled breakdowns, not really my style. (Contact: geniusg2a1@aol.com / bloodmoneydistro@yahoo.com) (Barrett)

Split: HOMBRINUS DUDES/LOADED FOR BEAR- Split CDR (in DVD packaging) H.D. start us out w/ 4 pretty Brutal tracks of extreme Death/grind, w/ some circle-pit breakdowns. Featuring ex-members of Forever Youth (which I haven't heard) Songs are about a minute long, but they get their point across, very intense, back and forth vocals, deep to screams. I also hear a "Scum" era Napalm Death influence, total blasting, then a groove breakdown. Good shit, I would like to hear more!!! Then we have Chicago based band Loaded For Bear, which play a mix of Hardcore & grind. Mid-ranged gruff vocals, over blasting drums, w/ your "Pick-up change" styled breakdowns, not really my style. This CDR is going to be released on 7" in Feb. (Contact: www.bloodmoneydistro.tk / bloodmoneydistro@yahoo.com) (Barrett)

Split: NEW YORK AGAINST THE BELZEBU / SORE THROAT- Victims Of Human Violence Split CD 1st we start out w/ N.Y.A.T.B., pretty ridiculous uninspired noise from Brazil. This band seems to have been around forever, I've heard some of there past releases, and they were all much better than this crap! I'm not sure if there is even any music on this. Enough time on this crap, onto Sore Throat, hailing from England it seems that we have some more crappy noise, I'm sorry I just can't get into this type of shit! If your into mindless noise w/o musicianship to it at all, then this is your CD! (Power It Up, Postfach 1114, 38156 Vecheide, Germany/www.power-it-up.de) (Barrett)

Split: PATIENT ZERO/HRYDUVERK - SPLIT 7" Patient Zero are from the UK and they play blistering heavy metallic over the top thrashing hardcore. Gruff screamed vocals and some totally insanely fast thrashing manic speed with slower crushing breakdown grooves as well. An all out thrashing assault lyrically generally dealing with people's ignorance and fear. Hryduverk are from Iceland, and by companion have a much more toned down heavy style, skin the heaviness of Arimuss Pyle, but moving at a faster weaving pace. Shouted dual vocals with politically lyrics (which are scanned and hard to read). This is a good split but I esp. like the Icelandic hardcore! On lime green vinyl. (Vill's PO Box 18/121 Reykjavik/Iceland/hryduverk@yahoo.com) (Chris)

Split: PHOENIX BODIES/TYRANNY OF SHAW 7" Both these bands are loud, distorted and heavy. Phoenix Bodies are pretty chaotic and fucking at moments. They do a black flag cover that sounds as though it's being played underneath a mud puddle. Tyranny of Shaw sounds quite similar but even more chaotic and faster though with slow parts as well. They have super distorted vocals and questionable lyrics. I really can't tell if these lyrics are metaphoric or just traditional shock value "gore grind." I proceed to pull back the skin. To fully understand her, I must fully dissect her. A scalpel incision. . . I'm not familiar enough with this to say where this is coming from but I felt like it should just be brought up. All in all both sides have a pretty similar feel to them musically. (Int Records/PO Box 871/Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0071/intrecords.com) (european)

Split: RABIES / CAD SPLIT EP Former Czechoslovakia represent! From Czech Republic: A blur of barked vocals and distorted chaos from RABIES. Five short blasts. I don't understand why obscure distro nerds don't go nutty for this band, everything is here: chaos, noise, fast, noise, chaos. Plus they are from the other side of the world and no one has heard of them! Perfect recipe for cult status? I think so. From across the border on Slovakia: CAD make my job easy, by putting my words right on their (record) sleeve, "CAD is 100% drug free grind core band." Sadly for me, my job is not done, because CAD are not 100% grindcore. They are better than that. While there are moments of grinding chaos, CAD are mostly a down-tuned heavy hardcore band. with

nonetheless. Indonesia's TASTE OF FLESH are fastcore at its fucking finest; solo filled breakdowns, high pitched manic up front vocals, and ahhh so damned fast!! The songs are all over the place in the best way. this fucking destroys. (-Robert) (14 label split release!!! Undiscovered, BP 515, 33001 Bordeaux Cedex FRANCE, www.firstbloodfamily.com)

Split: THE GAMMITS / OROKU SPLIT EP Wisconsin's GAMMITS are the melodic punk band you can't help but love. 100% catchy punk songs with multiple vocals and the kind of hooks you can't buy. The best things about mid 1990s melodic punk, a healthy dose of midwestern energy, and just enough English to keep it awesome. The live shows are more than awesome, and all the enthusiasm translates perfectly to wax. Scattered across the midwest, OROKU are more on the black clad side of things and I was instantly endeared by their side of the split; the intro riff could have been written by Milwaukee kings ANIMAL FARM, and then OROKU rip right into the last part that reminds me of another Milwaukee band I'm familiar with. High quality



WOW, OWLS!

Pick Your Patterns Nine Song CD 1.P

Richmond, Virginia's Wow, Owls! explode forth with their unbridled debut full length, *Pick Your Patterns*. These nine dynamic and fragile passages evoke the grit and aggression of early California groups such as Heroin and Torches To Rome, as well as the haunting unpredictability of Virginia predecessors, City Of Caterpillar and Stop It!! Recorded by Jason LaFerrera (Gregor Samsa, Stop It!!) and mastered by Josh Bonati (Breather Resist, Racchannon), Wow, Owls! also feature a member of the late Light The Fuse & Run

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Welcome To Violence collects all of the earliest music by Buzzo-en released through John Yates' Allied imprint.

Contains the 'To A Frown' LP, the 'Wound' EP & the 'Unwilling to Explain' EP and two



Box 1528 Upland, CA 91785 / anti-creative.com (european)

NEWGENICS 7: This is rock and roll with a punk feel and attitude. This ex Guyana Punch Line and Inv/ humanity band offer up two songs of blazing shouted rock. It seems more Confederate Fag (which I think has members of this band as well) then the aforementioned bands. It kind of reminds of in your face indy rock that's totally dance-able. The lyrics are sort of political in a fun quirky way and they are translated into a few languages which is cool. (Hyperrealist/PO Box 9313/Savannah, GA 31412/hyperrealist.com) (european)

Split: BIRDFLESH / CATHETER- Time To Face Extinction Split CD Birdflesh from Sweden start us off w/ 10 brand new Brutal tracks of very intense unique Grindcore w/ titles like "Mongo Business", "Trapped In The Ass Of The Dead" and "Wildpig Massacre" show that they still have their own sense of humour. In the vein of Nasum, Regurgitate, etc.... Then we have Colorado's Catheter coming at us w/ 6 new tracks including a Crypt Slaughter cover song!! Easily their best and most Brutal release to date, sick death/grinding madness! In the vein of the great Terrorizer, Nasum, etc. Great release!!!! (www.civilisation-records.com) (Barrett)

Split: BLOWN TO BITS / DEATHTOLL SPLIT LP Bullets and studs crust punk from the Bay area. BLOWN TO BITS have several releases under their belts, and these seven ditties (including a D Beat free CRUDE SS cover) show them coming into their own as a fist in the air attack. DEATHTOLL (x-ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT, dude) take a faster, fuller more basic approach that reminds me of mid-1990s east coast shits like BRUTALLY FAMILIAR or even DISSENSSION without the grind. Top notch start to finish. (-Robert) (Despotic Records, PO Box 832, Long Beach, CA 90801)

124 Ottawa Ave. South, Mpls. MN 55416 (Barrett)

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Both these bands are loud, distorted and heavy. Phoenix Bodies are pretty chaotic and sludgy at moments. They do a black flag cover that sounds as though it's being played underneath a mud puddle. Tyranny of Shaw sounds quite similar but even more chaotic and faster though with slow parts as well. They have super distorted vocals and questionable lyrics. I really can't tell if these lyrics are metaphoric or just traditional shock value "gore grind." "I proceed to pull back the skin. To fully understand her. I must fully dissect her. A scalpel incision..." I'm not familiar enough with this to say where this is coming from but I felt like it should just be brought up. All in both sides have a pretty similar feel to them musically. (Int Records/PO Box 871/Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0871/intrecords.com) (european)

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Former Czechoslovakia represent! From Czech Republic. A blur of barked vocals and distorted chaos from RABIES. Five short blasts.

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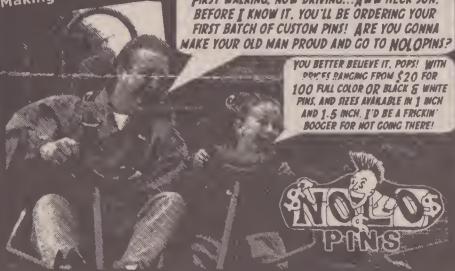
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MUSIC

unpretentious heavy ass hardcore, hopefully when they get home from tour they'll record more. Excellent split! (-Robert) (\$4ppd, Noah Kelly, 1370 Prairie Ct., Olathe, KS 66061)

SPLIT, THE SCARRED / VOID CONTROL - SPLIT 7" Wow, these bands are totally retro old styled punk that reminds me of the early 80s — late 70s California style. Like Posh Boys records stuff or the Zera Boys, or some old comp that I was totally into. They've got some classic rockin' guitar leads, which in my opinion are a detraction. But I like the style and sound of the vocals and the general catchiness of the musical style. This is confusing in that it looks like it's a split 7", then doesn't seem to be, and the bands sound so similar it kinda weird, but it does seem to be a split of two rad fucking old-school punk bands. I really dig this and love the style and I'm so glad to hear this kind of old punk being resurrected into today. Fuck yeah! (Puke n' Vomit Records/The Scarred/PO Box 2433/Anaheim CA 92814) (-Chris)

SPLIT, THIS MOMENT IN BLACK HISTORY / FATAL FLYING GUILLOTEENS SPLIT EP, TMIBH reign from the home of the R & R Hall of Shame or Cleveland, Muther Fucking Ohio and sport members of wild-ass bands such as The Bassholes and Chargers Street gang. Trashy, tough and relentless crap rock that gets down in your get down and boogies up your backside. Incredible band with spunk, raw bone funkiness. Next is FFF smacking wildly up side your head with a heavy hand full of choice grooves and squirming guitar. Weird electronic noises phase throughout and interesting vocals hold your ear firmly and thrust deeply into the canal, squirming intellectual joy juice on your grey matter. My synapses haven't fired right since. (GOLD STANDARD LABORATORIES PO Box 65091/ Los Angeles, CA 90065 / www.goldstandardlabs.com) (-Johnny)

SPLIT, UNDER PRESSURE / BLOOD I BLEED SPLIT EP Winnipeg's UNDER PRESSURE are even better here than their last EP; mid tempo, dirty, spiteful churning hardcore punk. Imagine the ugly pissed off cousin of the FUCKED UP / CAREER SUICIDE family...three kick ass songs, and a JESUS AND THE GOSPEL FUCKERS cover to boot. Holland's BLOOD I BLEED are a different animal entirely, just lightning fast barely in tune high pitched no slow'all go hardcore (well, there is a short breakdown in "Nothing Left To Bite," but other than that it's no slow). A NEGATIVE GAIN cover on this side, so it would appear that these kids are well versed in their obscure punk as well. No need to pick a winner here, as these two bands are playing different sports, but a bad ass slab O wax. (-Robert) (Podruido Records, 11040 Cantlay Street #1, Sun Valley, CA 91352-5068)

SPLIT, VOORHEES / RADIO ALICE - split 7" Wait a second...Voorhees broke up

awhile ago... Where did these songs come from then? Well, the Voorhees tracks were recorded back in 2000, and were supposed to be part of a split with F-Minus that never happened. These are great tunes, exclusive to this release from what I can tell too. The Radio Alice tracks were recorded just before they broke up too, and are also exclusive to this release. I was not familiar with them prior to this release, but enjoyed their side as well. A solid pairing of two bands from the UK. (Hermit Records, PO Box 309, Leeds LS2 7AH, UK www.hermitsrecords.co.uk) (Dave)

STOP IT! - GREATEST HITS: THE ENHANCED DEMO CD Stop it! were amazing. Few bands can blend melody and insanity as successfully and as genuinely as these kids did. This CD is a mastered version of their demo with some bonus features and new artwork. The demo songs are a little rougher and a little bit more chaotic than those on their full-length, Self-Made Maps, but the sincerity and emotion are still present. Making this CD enhanced is the Stop It! tour movie. Put this CD in your computer and you can watch Stop It! sing Karaoke and get their van towed. Good times. The mastered version of the demo is also available on vinyl, but you don't get the movie. Duh. (Waking Records, 1803 Riverside Dr. #5M, New York, NY 10034 / www.wakingrecords.com) -TNT

STRIKER - SPEKULANT SVINET CD The Swedes and

their speed, it's truly incredible. STRIKER roll through 21 songs like it's nothing, and rarely a slow bit is found. No grind, just fast as shit basic hardcore; killer riffs throughout, razor blades in the vocals, and buzzsaws in the guitars. My Melody comes up for air every four songs or so, in the form of guitar leads that let it be known that they COULD have those fashionable tuneful walking leads if they wanted to, but they seemingly cannot be bothered. Instead this is just an assault. I like assaults. (-Robert)

(Six Weeks, 225 Lincoln Avenue, Cottati, CA 94931)

SUNPOWER - JOHN TERROR EP I think I was attracted to this because of the name. But this is not any kind of pagan earth worshipping hippy stuff. This is tight fast hardcore from Belgium. The songs are about people who suck - those who think

hardcore is about being a tough guy, hypocrites, those who preach unity but divide and separate, and generally being frustrated. They play it old-school style, straightforward, at a frantic fast pace. Those who like the old-school straight forward hardcore that skips over the metal and distortion will dig on this. (www.deviantrecords.tk) (-Chris)

SUPPRESSION-RELEASE THE PIRANHA Bass, drums and noise, noise, noise from the duo known as Suppression. Outrageous feedback loaded rumpus with crazy man lyrics screamed wildly into a microphone loaded with weird effects ending with an even weirder cover of "Fever" that made me feel funny in my head. Good, amusing craziness that I would be scared to trip on psychedelics to. Woo-hoo-hoo!!! (UNDERADAR RECORDS/PO Box 164/Seaford, NY 11783 / www.underadar.com) (-Johnny)

SWEETHEART - ART IS DEAD CD/EP Sweetheart play very discordant and chaotic early Gravity records style hardcore with a bit of a touch of heavy added. If you liked that sort of thing, you may want to check this out, but I thought it was kind of boring. I'm noticing a trend of CDs including bonus videos. The Sweethearts have

joined the Quicktime revolution with a bunch of live videos, as well as some documented goofing! (The Perpetual Motion Machine, P.O. Box 7364, Richmond, VA 23221 / www.theperpetualmotionmachine.com) -TNT

SYSTEM REJECTS - DEMO TAPE The lyrics to "Reason Of Insanity" say it all: "Give me one good reason not to hate this fucking system/fucking this fucking system right up the ass." Raw - REALLY RAW - D-Beat punk from Illinois. SHITLICKERS and DOOM covers round out the tape... you get the idea, right? Sounds good through the tape hiss... (-Robert) (Jason, 1720 S. Washington St., Tilton, IL 61833)

TARANTULA HAWK - ALBUM #1 CD This is the first Tarantula Hawk album. It is a lot

more basic and heavy than their subsequent release. Very doomy sounding organ and heavy bass dominate. The cover art is one big abstract fantasy landscape, which goes well with this disc of heavy, evil music. (Life Is Abuse, P.O. Box 20524, Oakland, CA, 94620) (Neal)

THE ABANDONED HEARTS CLUB - THE INITIAL CONFESSIONS OF... CD/EP Although

I try not to judge a record by its cover, I usually try to guess what a record is going to sound like based on how it looks. It's sort of a game I play. Anyhow, when I first pulled the abandoned hearts club CD out of my review pile, I expected a quirky, indie rock kind of album. What you see is not always what you hear. The abandoned hearts club play their very heavy, screamly hardcore songs ala Converge or Breather. Resist on this EP. I can't quite decipher the lyrics, but I'm guessing these Canadians have a sense of humor because the cover of their record depicts a gorilla in a pirate hat and a rhinoceros-ish looking creature in a dinghy floating a brain with harpoons. I think the cover may be an ingenious visual metaphor for their music. (Init Records, P.O. Box 871, Sioux Falls, SD 57101 www.intrerecords.com) -TNT

THE AFTERMATH - GOODBYE TO WASHINGTON 7" The 2nd release from this DC-area hardcore band, and possible their last too (depending on who you ask?). The

vocals are anything but nice, sorta like a bunch of a drunken sounding John Brannon mixed

with a glass-swallowing Sheep Terror Ian. The music is straight to the point, with a sludgy sorta NYHC feel, but more raw. I saw them a couple times, and they are as ugly as the sound on this record - no joke. (Graw Mistake Records, PO Box 12482, Richmond, VA 23241 www.gravemistakerecords.com) (Dave)

THE BODY - S/T CD This is kinda hard for me to deal with. It starts out with about a 6

minute intro riff that is a drop tuned heavy drone. Then it morphs into a horrible sounding fuzz like the speakers have blown. Song 2 picks up with the repetitive drone riff (which is a great fucking riff), and then the screaming vocals come in, and they hurt.

They are buried deep in the mix, but they're the horrible sort of scream-o-style that

is pure raw pain. Overall kinda strange to have high production riff, and raw ner



these Georgia boys that would be fun to squiggle to on a hot Saturday night if you wanted to have a fun time. May well be inspired, I suspect, by the spirits (of the drinkable variety) and a love of The Cramps and Rev. Horton Heat as well as trashier stuff in the vein of the majority of the Estrus catalog (www.theloveddrunks.com) (-Johnny)

THE LOVED ONES - S/T CD With bits of Lifetime harmonies, pop-punk Avail melody, and short fast-to-the-point tunes, this is a good debut, and fits in great with the ever-growing Jade Tree family. Three dudes from Philly & DC, with 5 songs on this Brian McTernan produced EP, each song managing to show a different side to what this band is about. (Jade Tree Records, 2310 Kennwynn Rd, Wilmington, DE 19810 www.jadetree.com) (Dave)

THE MINOR TIMES-MAKING ENEMIES I really thought this disk was interesting in an indie-metal kind of way. The vocals are grit tough, the music is hard as nails, and thematically the lyrics are pretty cool as well. I'm not sure if I really like them stylistically as the sound they are going for is rather contrived but the guitar work I must admit is devastating and ballsy in most of the songs. Their handle of harmonics is actually really worthy of note. Great I've had a really fucking bad day and want to destroy some shit music. (LEVEL PLANE/www.level-plane.com) (-Johnny)

THE NEW YORK REL-X - SOLD OUT OF LOVE CD Damn this band is good! I loved them the first time around and I'm still eating it up. They've gotten even more polished and the lead

female vocals are absolutely amazing. Sung with so much sing-song vocal power, in a clean clear pop-music style. The songs are super catchy, and the vocals and lyric style is not only understandable, but sing-a-longable and these songs that will get stuck in your head and stay with you and have you coming back for more. They bring to mind the Lunachicks, though with a slightly different twist. Two ladies and two boys, one of whom is from the Krays. This is so fucking catchy it is unbelievable. The title of the album suggests the theme for the lyrics, which is about broken hearts and lost loves. Her vocals sound like they are sung in duet on most of her solo parts cause her voice is so harmonic and strong. There are a lot of back up vocals from the whole band creating the chorus harmonies and sing-a-longs. This rocks!! (TKO Records/8941 Atlanta Ave #505/Huntington Beach CA 92646 www.tkorecords.com) (-Chris)

THE NOTHING COMA POEMS

CD This is metal. Good chunky metal hardcore with weaving leads and chunky rhythms and good breakdowns. The guitar licks keep it rippling and I dig it. Kinda reminds me of the hardcore metallic hybrid that bands like Darkest Hour have perfected and helped to make even more popular. The vocal style stays in this harsh screamed vein which I find to be a bit of an irritant and a distraction at times, especially before some of the variation comes in. Don't know much about the band because the layout for the CD just has Misfits-esque pictures of them, a thanks list and no lyrics. In fact the bands name isn't even on the front cover, just the album title. But while I might sound non-



plussed, I actually dig this. (In the Deep End/82 Barlow Drive South/Awsworth Notts NG16 2TD UK / www.iatde.com) (-Chris)

THE PHANTOM LIMBS - RANDOM HYMNS CD/EP I heard there was something new out and I lost my mind cause I've been so smitten with this band for awhile now. Finally it arrived, as one of the most anticipated releases of late, in my hands. Maintaining their unique deathrock retro gothpunk sound, with the keyboards and creepy vocals that make them sounds like a carnival sideshow gone twisted and wrong. This is an EP, so it has just 5 songs which take on a bit more of a somber quality, and less of the upbeat dance quality that I lost my mind over. There is one track on here that flat out pisses me off as they get weird in the studio with noise. Otherwise, the 3 new songs are good, but not the best. And the last song is a different version of one from the first album, done in Spanish and sounding more raw in the vocal style of recording. All in all, it was kinda disappointed, but only cause I had such high expectations and want more songs. (GSL/PO Box 65091/LA CA 90065) (-Chris)

THE PLOT TO BLOW UP THE EIFFEL TOWER - LOVE IN THE FASCIST BROTHERHOOD CD What the fuck happened to Revelation Records? This shit is weird. It starts out with the intro "New Direction," I guess as a reminder of what this label used to put out. The Plot play some weird, tight pants rock that their press release calls "jazz-punk hybrid." All of their songs are about sex. Their guitars sound like bagpipes. Apparently these guys are pretty popular and this kid I play basketball with sometimes told me this CD sounds like their older stuff, only better. I guess if you like weird, wacky dance music marketed as punk rock, this could be your shit. I think it's crap. (Revelation Records, P.O. Box 5232, Huntington Beach, CA 92615 / www.revelationrecords.com) (-TNT)

THE PROFOUND AND MORTAL - NIGHT SHIFT CD This is the last issue 15 minutes

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 *beat beat beat s/t 7" (douche master) - \$4.00
 *black castle "male pattern bondage" lp (camp anorexia) - \$7.50
 *bloc party "silent alarm" 3xlp (lim mak) - \$17.50
 *chevi de frites "la lame du mat' 10" (minority) - \$12.00
 *crooked fingers "sleep all summer" 7" (eastern fiction) - \$5.00
 *daff punk "human after all" 2xlp (astralwerck) - \$19.50
 *elijahs "paper rock scissors" cd-r (Stickfigure cd-r) - \$4.50
 *everybody's enemy "enter the enemy" one sided lp (death sickle) - \$9.00
 *funeral diner/evylock split 10" (sombrahn) - \$8.50
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 *jocust the "safety second, body last" cd (fipcad) - \$11.00
 *no t-shirt/only lovers left alone split 7" (luminal) - \$4.00
 *press, the "noxious saucy beast" cd (goodnight) - \$8.00
 *re.com pas s/t cd-r (noph) - \$7.00

STICKFIGURE DISTRO

business. New is it? Smacking wildly up your head with a heavy hand full of choice grooves and squirming guitar. Weird electronic noises phase throughout and interesting vocals hold your ear firmly and thrust deeply into the canal, squirming intellectual joy juice on your grey matter. My synapses haven't fired right since. (GOLD STANDARD LABORATORIES/ PO Box 65091/ Los Angeles, CA. 90065 / www.goldstandardlabs.com) (-Johnny)

SPLIT: UNDER PRESSURE / BLOOD I BLEED SPLIT EP Winnipeg's UNDER PRESSURE are even better here than their last EP; mid tempo, dirty, spitful churning hardcore punk. Imagine the ugly pissed off cousin of the FUCKED UP/ CAREER SUICIDE family... three kick ass songs, and a JESUS AND THE GOSPELFUCKERS cover to boot. Holland's BLOOD I BLEED are a different animal entirely, just lightning fast barely in tune high pitched no slow'all go hardcore (well, there is a short breakdown in "Nothing Left To Bite," but other than that it's no slow). A NEGATIVE GAIN cover on this side, so it would appear that these kids are well versed in their obscure punk as well. No need to pick a winner here, as these two bands are playing different sports, but a bad ass slab O wax. (-Robert) (Podruido Records, 11040 Canatay Street #1, Sun Valley, CA 91352-5068)

SPLIT: VOORHEES / RADIO ALICE - split 7" Wait a second... Voorhees break up

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*residual echoes s/t cd (holy mountain) - \$14.00
*snowden "black eyes" 7" (Stickfigure) - \$4.00
*waissisz, michel "in tune" cd (soniq) - \$14.00

STICKFIGURE distro

Good times. The mastered version of the demo is also available on vinyl, but you don't get the movie. Duh. (Waking Records, 1803 Riverside Dr. #5M, New York, NY 10034. www.makingrecords.com) (-TNT)

STRIKER - SPEKULANT SVINET CD The Swedes and

their speed, it's truly incredible. STRIKER roll through 21 songs like it's nothing, and nary a slow bit to be found. No grind, just fast as shit basic hardcore; killer riffs throughout, razor blades in the vocals, and buzzsaws in the guitars. Mr. Melody comes up for air every four songs or so, in the form of guitar leads that let it be known that they COULD have those fashionable tuneful walking leads if they wanted to, but they seemingly cannot be bothered. Instead this is just an assault. I like assaults. (-Robert) (Six Weeks, 225 Lincoln Avenue, Cotati, CA 94931)

SUPNOWER - JOHN TERROR EP I think I was attracted to this because of the name. But this is not any kind of pagan earth worshipping hippy stuff. This is tight fast hardcore from Belgium. The songs are about people who suck - those who think hardcore is about being a tough guy, hypocrites, those who preach unity but divide and separate, and generally being frustrated. They play it old-school style, straight forward, at a frantic fast pace. Those who like the old-school straight forward hardcore that skips over the metal and distortion will dig on this. (www.deviantrecords.tk) (-Chris)

SUPPRESSION-RELEASE THE PIRANHA Bass, drums and noise, noise, noise from the duo known as Suppression. Outrageous feedback loaded rumpus with crazy man lyrics screamed wildly into a microphone loaded with weird effects ending with an even weirder cover of "Fever" that made me feel funny in my head. Good, amusing craziness that I would be scared to trip on psychedelics to. Woo-hoo-hoo!!! (UNDERADAR RECORDS/PO Box 1647/ New York, NY 11783 / www.underadar.com) (-Johnny)

SWEETHEART - ART IS DEAD IS DEAD CDEP Sweetheart play very discordant and chaotic early Gravity records style hardcore with a bit of a touch of heavy added. If you liked that sort of thing, you may want to check this out, but I thought it was kind of boring. I'm noticing a trend of CDs including bonus videos. The Sweethearts have joined the Quiktime revolution with a bunch of live videos, as well as some documented goofing! (The Perpetual Motion Machine, P.O. Box 7364, Richmond, VA 23221 / www.theperpetualmotionmachine.com) (-TNT)

SYSTEM REJECTS - DEMO TAPE The lyrics to "Reason Of Insanity" say it all: "Give me one good reason not hate this fucking system/fucking this fucking system right up the ass." Raw - REALLY raw - D-Beat punk from Illinois. SHITLICKERS and DOOM covers round out the tape... you get the idea, right? Sounds good through the tape hiss... (-Robert) (Jason, 1720 S. Washington St., Tilton, IL 61833)

TARANTULA HAWK-ALBUM #1 CD This is the first Tarantula Hawk album. It is a lot more basic and heavy than their subsequent release. Very dooming sounding organ and heavy bass dominate. The cover art is one big abstract fantasy landscape, which goes well with this disc of heavy, evil music. (Life Is Abuse, P.O. Box 20524, Oakland, CA, 94620) (Neal)

THE ABANDONED HEARTS CLUB- THE INITIAL CONFESSIONS OF... CDEP: Although I try not to judge a record by its cover, I usually try to guess what a record is going to sound like based on how it looks. It's sort of a game I play. Anyhow, when I first pulled the abandoned hearts club CD out of my review pile, I expected a quirky, indie rock kind of album. What you see is not always what you hear. The abandoned hearts club play four very heavy, screamy hardcore songs ala Converge or Breather Resist on this EP. I can't quite decipher the lyrics, but I'm guessing these Canadians have a sense of humor because the cover of their record depicts a gorilla in a pirate hat and a rhinoceros-fish-looking creature in a dingy hunting a floating brain with harpoons. I think the cover may be an ingenious visual metaphor for their music. (Init Records, P.O. Box 871, Sioux Falls, SD 57101 www.intrerecords.com) -TNT

THE HOOKERS - CASTING THE RUINS 2XCD I remember when I went to see The Hookers in Las Vegas at the Rock n Roll Shakedown... I waited all weekend... and then they canceled! I was not happy at all, since I never got to see them before the band imploded on itself soon after. Here we have (from what the one-sheet says) every single song they recorded, as well as a second disc of unreleased & live rarities. You can hear the progression from sleazy rock to the heavy metal monster they became by the end of their existence. There are a ton of songs here, making it a great release for anyone curious about this, and for those fans that don't want to have to search out their vast catalog of 7"s as well. The packaging is kinda basic, but the wealth of tunes makes up for it. Oh yeah, this band has ex-members of Nashville Pussy & Nine Pound Hammer. (Devil Doit Records, P.O. Box 30727, Long Beach, CA 90853 www.devildoitrecords.com) (Dave)

THE JURY CDR Mid paced hardcore punk from upstate NY. They have six songs on this recording. Buzz saw guitars, hoarsely screamed vocals and even a sweet solo or two. Their lyrics are sometimes dark and other times pretty funny. This is good. (37 Morris/Albany, NY 12208 / drunkjury@hotmail.com) (europian)

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They are buried deep into the mix, but they're the horrible sort of scream-o style that is pure raw pain. Overall kinda strange to have high production riffle, and raw nerded buried vocals and blown speaker effects. Then breaking into a total mello interlude, where you know the noise and pain will erupt once again. This is a style that will appeal to some, and they're doing an interpretive take on it all and delivering some might stoner riffle, but those pained vocals end up making me angry and angry (Mogamono' 8 Candlewood Dr/ Andover MA 01810) (-Chris)

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the Schiopi LP. I love it. Raging from slow powerful drones to totally adrenaline overidden thrashing fast power that never lets the blister bass heavy throttle go. This is mean and brutal in a dark, twisted, apocalyptic punk way. The Collapse are awesome and I love the driving power, adrenaline, guitar slides and the charged delivery of this brutally drop tuned assault!! (Endless Blockades/ PO Box 3023/ South Brisbane BC QLD 4101/ Australia / www.endlessblockades.life.com.au) (-Chris)

THE DEAD HATE THE LIVING - SHOCK & AWE LP I really love this Ohio band. The record cover was a tease for me - it's fitting with the band name a family of zombies

having a happy family moment with a cake. But honestly, I never would have picked this record up. I was pleasantly rewarded though with some really great modern hardcore thrash with dual male and female vocals that is totally invigorating. From super blistering speed to a more moderate chunky tempo, the range that

they have is great and well, this band stands out and plays a really great style that is refreshing and doesn't sound like anything else that comes to mind and kicks ass. Makes me think of Bread and Water who played great hardcore punk with dual m/f vocals and managed to really stand out. These guys have a fast style that incorporates weaving guitar leads, with a nod in the metallica direction. Okay, more than a nod, when the guitars start a galloping metallic thrash a thon.

Fucking hell I love this!! Intense lyrics and I love the artwork on the inside. Pheh, this is a hot release! Totally taken my breath away!! (Hyperrealist/ PO Box 9313/ Savannah GA 31412 / www.hyperrealist.com) (-Chris)

THE FRONTLINE - WITHSTAND 7" I hold a spot in my heart for late-eighties style positive hardcore, especially when it comes from college towns, like Harrisonburg, VA. They are fast, punchy and angry in the most positive way possible. Tight! (Grave Mistake Records, P.O. Box 12482, Richmond, VA 23241 / www.gravemistakerecords.com) -TNT

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Lyricaly these are manifesto about a decadent consumerist society and the prices that are paid in lie and limb. The recording on this doesn't really match the production of the vinyl and sleeve, but I dig it all the same. (Hater of God/ PO Box 666/ Troy NY 12181-666) (-Chris)

THE LOVE DRUNKS-VOLUME (DEMO) Straight forward rock-a-billy that has some garage rock feeling bubbling underneath the surface with a swinging beat, echo laden vocals and twangy-assed guitar pickin'. A good timey wing-ding of a decent demo from

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Finally it arrived, as one of the most anticipated releases of late, in my hands. Maintaining their unique deathrock retro gothpunk sound, with the keyboards and creepy vocals that make them sounds like a carnival sideshow gone twisted and wrong. This is an EP, so it has just 5 songs which take on a bit more of a somber quality, and less of the upbeat dance quality that I lost my mind over. There is one track on here that flat out pisses me off as they get weird in the studio with noise. Otherwise, the 3 new songs are good, but not the best. And the last song is a different version of one from the first album, done in Spanish and sounding more raw in the vocal style of recording. All in all, I was kinda disappointed, but only cause I had such high expectations and want more songs. (GSL/ PO Box 65091/ LA CA 90065) (-Chris)

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THE PROZACS-MONSTER NIGHT OUT CD This is the just over 15 minutes of Screeching Weasel worship. I mean it sounds almost exactly like older Screeching Weasel even down to the melodic guitar leads and the snotty lyrics that are bitterly romantic and sometimes quite playful as well. There is one song here though that sounds way more like doo wop then snotty pop punk. I love Screeching Weasel more than most bands but this in itself doesn't bring a new dynamic to this sound in my opinion. So although I love the influences of this I can't really get excited about



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THE AFTERMATH - GOODBYE TO WASHINGTON 7" The 2nd release from this DC-area hardcore band, and possibly their last too (depending on who you ask?). The vocals are anything but nice, sorta like bits of a drunker sounding John Brannon mixed with a glass-swallowing Sheer Terror fan. The music is straight to the point, with a sludgy sorta NYHC feel, but more raw. I saw them a couple times, and they are as ugly as the sound on this record - no joke. (Grave Mistake Records, PO Box 12482, Richmond, VA 23241 www.gravemistakerecords.com) (Dave)

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THE PLOT TO BLOW UP THE EIFFEL TOWER- LOVE IN THE FASCIST BROTHEL CD What the fuck happened to Revelation Records? This shit is weird. It starts out with the intro "New Direction," I guess as a reminder of what this label used to put out. The Plot play some weird, tight pants rock that their press release calls "jazz-punk hybrid." All of their songs are about sex. Their guitars sound like bagpipes. Apparently these guys are pretty popular and this kid I play basketball with sometimes told me this CD sounds like their older stuff, only better. I guess if you like weird, wacky dance music marketed as punk rock, this could be your shit. I think it's crap. (Revelation Records, P.O. Box 5232, Huntington Beach, CA 92615 / www.revelationrecords.com) - TNT

THE PROZAC-MONSTER NIGHT OUT CD This is the just over 15 minutes of Screeching Weasel worship. I mean it sounds almost exactly like older Screeching Weasel even down to the melodic guitar leads and the snotty lyrics that are bitterly romantic and sometimes quite spiteful as well. There is one song here though that sounds way more fities do wop then snotty pop punk. I love Screeching Weasel more than most bands but this in itself doesn't bring a new dynamic to this sound in my opinion. So although I love the influences of this I can't really get excited about

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the music here. (Cheapskate Records/297 Stoeley Place/Schenectady, NY 12303 /www.cheapskaterecords.com) (europian)

THE TOTAL END - 7" This is one of my current favorites—so I was super excited to see a new release. This is dark apocalyptic crust punk from CT. Drop tuned, heavy and throbbing—this is a powerhouse of distorted and crushing end of the world crust. The vocals are gruff and low. Lyrically about politics, class war, prioritizing war funding over education, and the generally depressing state of the world. While the overall tone and speed of this stays on a driving throttled pace, they include some ripping Scandi-styled guitar leads. They do have enough weaving melodic guitars wrapped in and over to make this even more amazing. Fucking, fuck yeah! Ya know what I'm saying. Anarcho-crust punks: if this band ever gets out of CT, then we will flock to see them deliver. (Crées de Parv' PO Box 1004/ Windsor CT 06095 /creesdeparv@hotmail.com) (-Chris) ***

THE VACANCY-HEART ATTACK CD: The Vacancy play melodic punk along the lines of The Break and Samiam with a little bit more of a hardcore feel to it. I think all of the songs on the CD are about girls. Record, produced, engineered, and mixed by the best in the business, but this CD falls quite short of greatness. (A-F Records, P.O. Box 71266, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 /www.a-frecords.com) -TNT

THE WARRIORS - War Is Hell CD: This has screamed vocals on top of early 108-esque hardcore with songs that seem like one long moshpart. There was a song that had Rage Against The Machine sounding rap lyrics that did nothing for me. This singer definitely digs Zack De La Rocha. I was almost hoping this would be a band themed around one of my favorite movies... but no luck. (Eulogy Recordings, P.O. Box 24913, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307 www.eulogyrecordings.com) (Dave)

THE YUPPIE PRICKS- BROKERS BANQUET CD: The Yuppie Pricks are a conservative, yuppie punk band. Their songs are about cocaine, fancy cars, Arnold Schwarzenegger getting a "hummer [in] his Hummer," and the stock market. They remake the Getto Boyz "Damn, It Feels Good to be a Gangsta," as "Damn it Feels Good to be a Yuppie," with Jello Biafra as George W. I get the joke, but it's not that funny. When you have to stoop to putting out grimey bands on your record label, it's time to hang that hat up. AT, please limit your releases to political spoken word, stuff that sounds like The Melvins, and Wesley Willis records (gimmicky, but not forced). (Alternative Tentacles Records, P.O. Box 419092, San Francisco, CA 94141) -TNT

THIEVES - \$1 LP: A mid paced fucked up two piece dirge. Distorted and evil as all hell, with constant elements of destruction and eternal volume, THIEVES plow through 14 songs that leave you feeling completely leveled. Perhaps to arty for the purist, this LP for me takes the best elements of heavy sludge like KARP, and twists and mutates it until there is but a shell remaining; the framework for their own personal chaos. Seriously fucked up music, awesome painted and screened sleeve.

Be brave, my child. (-Robert) (Sad Party Music, PO Box 8544 Minneapolis, MN 55408)

THIN THE HERD - DEMO CD: 100% amazing crust assault from Chicago. Every single riff in the first song is fucking pure destruction, and the guitar leads are absolutely perfect. This pummels. Male/female vocals that bring to mind the best of the best (I'm not going to mention names, but they are seriously THAT good). I've listened to these songs twice, while sitting in front of the computer, trying to translate this disc into mere words. The intro to "Plague Victim" is as crushing as any heavy hardcore band I've heard, and then the rest of the song proceeds to just annihilate me. Sure, there are moments that bring to mind other bands, but there is never so much as an instant that this demo is not awesome. From mid tempo majestic heaviness to blazing onslaught, THIN THE HERD are blowing my mind. The best part is that this is a demo, and is a little rough around the edges at times... when they mold this into a proper LP I swear I will shit my pants. (-Robert) (thin_the_herd@hotmail.com)

THINGS FALL APART CD: This consists of seven songs of heartfelt post hardcore. The music is frantic and full of melodic guitar leads. What I really like about this is that the catcher songs or parts of songs that offset the gruff vocals. The lyrics are political and personal and consistently intelligent. The political aspect deals with all types of issues including third world exploitation, war taxes, eco destruction and more. This is much more rocking than what I've written so far. The music is powerful and the vocals especially accompanied by huge choruses are pretty intense as well. (Crustacean Records/PO Box 892/Madison WI 53701-892/crustaceanrecords.com) (europian)

TINY HAWKS-FINGERS BECOME BRIDGES LP: Half art project half rock, I mean this literally. One side of the vinyl has an amazing etching on it and the other side has music. It's no surprise that this band comes from Providence which seems to have a very artistic oriented music scene. Tiny Hawks kind of reminds me of bands that would be on Waking Records. The music is discordant hardcore that often transitions from quiet and soft to loud and back but it's way more complicated than most bands that play this style. The vocals all come out in a sort of strained scream. The cover is silk screened on corrugated cardboard and the lyric book is elegant. The esthetic of this entire release is pretty impressive. (Mogonoro' 66 Marshal St. apt 2/ Brookline, MA 02446) (europian)

TO WHAT END? - CONCEALED BELOW THE SURFACE LP/CD: This is both the easiest and hardest thing for me to review and the one that I've saved for last because this band is the coup d'état of my life. My complete and utter obsession, and the obsession of all my obsessions. When I first heard them last year I lost my mind. They've been a favorite ever since. They're from Sweden, I thought I'd never get to see them, but I found out they were coming to the east coast this spring, and I started to plan my life around that. Been listening to the first CD with rabid passionate obsession and had no idea that there was even a new one out until I saw them here in Richmond. I grabbed

that CD went home and listened to it for a week straight over and over again until I saw them again a week later and by that time I knew all the songs inside and out and life was even better. I didn't think the first album could be bettered, but this new one is just as good and it could be argued even better with so many more intricate and amazing parts to just lose my mind over. Okay, so where to start? As I say it, TWE are the perfect band for me, because they are everything that I like. Raging pummeling metallic crust punk with dual male and female vocals. The vocal style is perfect because they are totally matched interwoven, and the pitch is just right. What I love about this band so much is that every single aspect of it is essential and perfect. The heaviness is a given. The Swedish hardcore influence goes without saying. With a guitar player and drummer from Wolfbridge, the comparisons and growth from that are obvious. But To What End take the Swedish hardcore and the crust punk and work in some over the top metallic riffs, some incredible heavy monster drum parts, some snake-charming melodic weaving guitar leads—not a detail can or should go without mention and that is what I love: this is a 6 piece band where every detail is essential and every contribution is what makes them the amazing band that they are. It takes my breath away. Take what I like about Tragedy and the full circle of their influences from Swedish hardcore and then back to influence the Swedes, take the amazingness of Wolfbridge, the pure metallicness of Entombed, and then add in a sensibility that goes beyond any and all of that to create intense building passion, breakdowns and even dance beats and you just can't get any better or more complete than this. And lyrically, oh phew, great stuff. Song #6, the Final Victory is my favorite: that is the one that starts out with the "snake charming guitar" leads and has a slick click that is one of the most intense things ever, and the lyrics for that song make me cry with why I like this band so much: "Concealed below the surface... by united efforts, we must fight together to reach our goal... If we create a future, a future in equality, this struggle must come to an end. There is a gleam of hope, where awareness grows, passion for change, and there will be, the final victory." To have so much substance behind the amazing riffs and vocals, which I'm insane about, proves that this is really the ultimate band. And for me, well I can sit here and pick it all apart, I can talk about each and every note and beat and click and surge, I can diagnose my favorite parts and why this and that are so amazing and work so well, and I don't think I've ever spent so much time dissecting something and just liking it MORE with each listen and I surely have listened to this over 300 times and it makes me swoon, rock, rage, thrash with fist in the air, tears in my eyes and goosebumps on my skin. The simple condensed version would be to say that TWE play amazing Swedish hardcore punk, drawing from the history of the style but adding a breath of fresh air. Incorporating melody and power, and of course they're heavy as hell with perfect dual male and female vocals. Crust punk extrodinaire. But as I say, it's the ultimate manifestation of my obsessions. My favorite band ever. A band to change my life. The band that is just that fucking good!!! And I don't see myself calming down anytime soon. Here is to my favorite Swedes!!! (Crimes Against Humanity/PO Box 1421/Eau Claire WI 54702) (-Chris) *****

TODAY IS THE DAY-KISS THE PIG Could these guys play any faster? Probably. Steve Austin & co. continue to assail and rouse the disenfranchised with a pissed off document of radical rage and malcontent, uncompromising hate metal. Scomful yet daunting lyrical imagery that dumps buckets of gasoline to a fear and anger fire that burns in a lot of us who are infuriated and frustrated at the state of the world. A dry, spiked gauntlet arm up the ass of conventional, "safe" metal (RELAPSE RECORDS/PO Box 2060/Upper Darby, PA 190082 /www.relapse.com) (-Johnny)

TOTAL FUCKING DESTRUCTION-Compact Disc Version 1 CD: Now this is some cool shit! Straight from the start we have some pretty brutal intense crust inspired grind! Featuring Ex-Brutal Truth drummer Rico Hoak, High screaming vocals, w/ your occasional grunts! 100% grinding political opus similar to Anal Cunt and Macabre! Includes 3 of their demos, and a hole live set from Philadelphia, PA! Good shit! (Bones Brigade, BP 31, 62140 Hesdin, France /www.bonesbrigaderecords.com) (Barrett)

TOTAL FUCKING DESTRUCTION-Compact Disc Version 1.0 Good Old Fashioned Grind Core from Philadelphia featuring Rico Hoak of Brutal Truth. Shredding guitar rips tear ass along the muddiest bass bars I've heard in a long time. Blast beats galore and screaming night hog vocals fill 40 tracks in just about as many minutes. Typically lo-down dirty production time warped me back to the days of "Scum" and it was a very nice visit to say the least. Disk is chock full of goodies including demos and live tracks as well. Oh, read the lyrics, as they are the most hilariously shit I have seen since "Straight Outta Compton" TFD, MUTHA BITCHES, TFD! Indeed! (BONES BRIGADE RECORDS/BP 31-62140/Hesdin, France /www.bonesbrigaderecords.com) (-Johnny)

TRIOXIN 245 - DEMO CD: Holy d-beat fucking crap this is great! Imagine a demo that starts out sounding like Inepsy worship, has covers by the Varukers, Doom, Antimex, Discharge, Disclose, and probably some others that are not even listed, cause to be honest this all sounds so familiar. And when you get down to it, the d-beat phenomena of often a re-hashing of a small circle of what has come before and the variations often don't go far astray. This is not a dis, (nor a pun) cause even though the recording on the is pretty thin and basement practice on a 4 track recording, when it is because this is a 2 song, all minus, the w/ drums and jazz offbeat wiscons and



Massakro

EP of the same name, plus 13 tracks re-recorded from previous releases. Fast paced hardcore punk with Spanish vocals barked urgently (and the occasional female vocals are awe inspiring), and a style that owes more to Spain than to Latin America though the similarities to both are evident. If they were from the states...huge (-Robert) (Discos De Hoy/Calle 4, C-5 Parque Montebello, Trujillo Alto, 00976 PUERTO RICO, tropiezo_hc@yahoo.com)

VA - SLEAZY JOKE / BURN AT ALL / ASKIDA / FIFO - CD: 4 pretty different bands from France. Sleazy Joke start this off with some powerful heavy gutturally gruff punk, played at a galloping pace with some power heavy not afraid to crunch or wank on some leads. The French accent and lyrics give this an even harsher feeling to go with the double bass drums. But this stays in the hard driving punk vein, with just a touch of the metallic to keep it good. These 4 songs are from their Sans Concession EP that came out in '98. Askida start off with a trumpet, that will make many moan, but for making some skatetype rhythms, this is pretty good although the trumpet does bleat. They're energetic and play pretty fucking fast. BURN AT ALL gallop some ripping guitars, with and a trade off vocal style that rages and rips, again at a fast and frantic pace with some good breakdown melodies and harmonies. FIFO keep the adrenaline amped up to the wall with more gruff vocals and galloping guitars and a rockin' style. It is possible I have the bands off (based on the info sheet it didn't correspond to the list, but the list is not track #4 (Ugh). Anyway, any way you look at it, this has 4 French bands that all share a hard driving punk style that I have come to associate with Mass Prod. (Mass Productions/19 rue Malagut/35000 Rennes/France/www.massprod.com) (-Chris)

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VAARINKASITYS - SOTA-APARAT LP: After the 13 song EP from a year or two ago (songs from which are included here), it came as no surprise that this 30 song LP was fucking stellar. Like street punk on crack, these songs rock by with nonstop intensity, and I'm sure that my banging fist would be accompanied by frenzied singing along if only I brushed up on my Finnish (the translations are a nice touch though, thanks guys). No frills here, honest punk rock. (-Robert) (Putrid Filth Conspiracy, Box 7092, 200 42 Malmö SWEDEN)

VAN JOHNSON - ST CD: Van Johnson are Canada's contribution to the screamy hardcore genre. They sound a lot like City of Caterpillar, Stop It!, and the like. They're really screamy and really melodic. Apparently they are the shit live, but they don't really stand out too much on this CD. (Exotic Fever Records, P.O. Box 297, College Park, MD 20741 /www.exoticfever.com) -TNT

VIVISUK - US DISASTROWHERE 7" Woo-hoo! Crusty punkcore with dual male female vocals just like I love to hear. Played fast with a straight forward adrenaline style that is thick, but not overly distorted, heavy or metallic. Instead this is really fast hardcore thrash punk, that indeed played fast and super thrashy. They throttle along with a good balance in the vocals. (\$4ppd/Bacon Towne Rec/PO Box 1063/Tallevent FL 34270) (-Chris)

WOW OWLS - PICK YOUR PATTERNS CD: This band grew on me in a hurry. They play this kind of new style of emo discordant indie rock hardcore, that for the most part I can do without. And some of this had me feeling that way. But I've gotten past that because everything else they do right. They've got driving rhythms, the discordance is edgy but enthralling, the scream-o-ish qualities remind me of some bands that I have loved. I'm not really so sure what they're singing about, and yet I like the lyrics because they're kinda weird but interesting and make an obscure picture' earthworms buried in skin, decay in the front yard, making the kitten coo, leopard like style, the tarnished weight of the world rubbing up against me, this hole is a hivé laced with honey, this is the sound of a million chameleons dying, find your wires, the canvas you painted over... these are just some random lines I picked out cause I liked them. The song titles are just as good "Your new favorite song", "I'll be your Huckleberry" "Chris, Did You Ruin the Dance party" How to describe the captivation this band has put on me. There is nothing neater than writing something off, only to be totally surprised and smitten. I guess part of what I like about this so much, or what I can not deny is that this band is so Richmond. With ex-members of Light the Fuse and Run, and some others. And as RVAers have a tendency to do, they create something new out of the old with a new spin that captivates attention. This is not a band that can be pigeonholed, nor easily described by me. But they've got the angst, the discordant feedback, the driving rhythms, an artsy independent feeling, and some raise the roof dance beats and breakdowns. This is like taking all the best of the bands that I walk away from and saying "HEY!!" Maybe you should stay." I think I will. (The Perpetual Motion Machine Records/PO Box 7364/ Richmond VA 23221 /www.theperpetualmotionmachine.com) (-Chris) ****

ZEGOTA - 7" It was predicted that this might be my favorite Zegota release, and I know the recording on the is pretty thin and basement practice on a 4 track recording, when it is because this is a 2 song, all minus, the w/ drums and jazz offbeat wiscons and



THE TOTAL END ep



DISCLOSE / BESTHOVEN split ep



AxOxSx / CROSSING CHAOS split ep



HOLOKAUST / DISSYSTEMA split ep



BESTHOVEN - just another warsong



EXHALE / DIALLO split ep



ET AE ep



SANGRE DE LOS PUERCOS - they lie we die

cash or M.O. made to

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crust punk and work in some over the top melodic riffs, some incredible heavy monster drum parts, some snake-charming melodic weaving guitar leads—not a detail can or should go without mention and that is what I love: this is a 6 piece band where every detail is essential and every contribution is what makes them the amazing band that they are. It takes my breath away. Take what I like about Tragedy and the full circle of their influences from Swedish hardcore and then back to influence the Swedes, take the amazingness of Wolfbridge, the pure metallicity of Entombed, and then add in a sensitivity that goes beyond any and all of that to create intense building pressure, breakdowns and even dance beats and you just can not get any better or more complete than this. And lyrically, oh phew, great stuff. Song #6, the Final Victory is my favorite: that is the one that starts out with the "snake charming guitar" leads and has a sick click that is one of the most intense things ever, and the lyrics for that song make me cry with why I like this band so much: "Concealed below the surface... by united efforts, we must fight together to reach our goal... If we create a future, a future in equality, this struggle must come to an end... There is a gleam of hope, where awareness grows, passion for change, and there will be, the final victory." To have so much substance behind the amazing riffs and vocals, which I'm insane about, proves that this is really the ultimate band. And for me, well I can sit here and pick it all apart, I can talk about each and every note and beat and click and surge, I can diagnose my favorite parts and why this and that are so amazing and work so well, and I don't think I've ever spent so much time dissecting something and just liking it MORE with each listen and I surely have listened to this over 300 times and it makes me swoon, rock, rage, thrash with fist in the air, tears in my eyes and goosebumps on my skin. The simple condensed version would be to say that TWE play amazing Swedish hardcore punk, drawing from the history of the style but adding a breath of fresh air. Incorporating melody and power, and of course they're heavy as hell with perfect dual male and female vocals. Crust punk extraordinaire. But as I say, it's the ultimate manifestation of my obsessions. My favorite band ever. A band to change my life. The band that is just that fucking good!!! And I don't see myself calming down anytime soon. Here is to my favorite Swedes!!! (Crimes Against Humanity PO Box 1421/Eau Claire WI 54702) (-Chris) *****

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TROPIZO - EL FANTASMA ANTILLANO CD After their live show last year I developed an even greater affinity for Puerto Rico's TROPIZO. They were bursting with energy so excited to just be playing, never mind the fact that it was in a living room full of people who wanted to care. This disc captures much of that energy nine songs from the recent

many moan, but for making some skatetype rhythms, this is pretty good although the trumpet does bleed. They're energetic and play pretty fucking fast. BURN AT ALL gallop some ripping guitars, with and a trade off vocal style that rages and rips, again at a fast and frantic pace with some good breakdown melodies and harmonies. FIFO keep the adrenaline amped up to the wall with more gruff vocals and galloping guitars and a rockin' style. It is possible I have the bands off (based on the info sheet it didn't correspond to the list, but the list is not track #4 (Ugh). Anyway, any way you look at it, this has 4 French bands that all share a hard driving punk style that I have come to associate with Mass Prod. (Mass Productions' 19 rue Malagut/35000 Rennes/France/www.massprod.com) (-Chris)

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WOW OWLS - PICK YOUR PATTERNS CD This band grew on me in a hurry. They play this kind of new style of emo discordant indie rock hardcore, that for the most part I can do without. And some of this had me feeling that way. But I've gotten past that because everything else they do right. They've got driving rhythms, the discordance is edgy but enthralling, the scream-o-ish qualities remind me of some bands that I have loved. I'm not really so sure what they're singing about, and yet I like the lyrics because they're kinda weird but interesting and make an obscure picture: earthworms buried in skin, decay in the front yard, making the kitten coo, leopard like style, the tarnished weight of the world rubbing up against me, this hole is a hive faced with honey, this is the sound of a million chameleons dying, find your wires, the canvas you painted over... these are just some random lines I picked out cause I liked them. The song titles are just as good "Your new favorite song", "I'll be your Huckleberry" "Chris, did you Ruin the Dance party." How to describe the captivation this band has put on me. There is nothing neater than writing something off, only to be totally surprised and smitten. I guess part of what I like about this so much, or what I can not deny is that this band is so Richmond. With ex-members of Light the Fuse and Run, and some others. And as RVAs have a tendency to do, they create something new out of the old with a new spin that captivates attention. This is not a band that can be pigeonholed, nor easily described by me. But they've got the angst, the discordant feedback, the driving rhythms, an artsy independent feeling, and some raise the roof dance beats and breakdowns. This is like taking all the best of the bands that I walk away from and saying "HEY!! Maybe you should stay." I think I will. (The Perpetual Motion Machine Records/ PO Box 7364/ Richmond VA 23221 / www.theperpetualmotionmachine.com) (-Chns) ****

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*bestoven/disclose ep & besthoven ep released/distributed in europe by Plague Bearer Records

Massakro

many moan, but for making some skatetype rhythms, this is pretty good although the trumpet does bleed. They're energetic and play pretty fucking fast. BURN AT ALL gallop some ripping guitars, with and a trade off vocal style that rages and rips, again at a fast and frantic pace with some good breakdown melodies and harmonies. FIFO keep the adrenaline amped up to the wall with more gruff vocals and galloping guitars and a rockin' style. It is possible I have the bands off (based on the info sheet it didn't correspond to the list, but the list is not track #4 (Ugh). Anyway, any way you look at it, this has 4 French bands that all share a hard driving punk style that I have come to associate with Mass Prod. (Mass Productions' 19 rue Malagut/35000 Rennes/France/www.massprod.com) (-Chris)

VAAREGENA - MUNDO PERIODO DEMO TAPE Raw shits from the Twin Cities; 8 tracks of rudimentary chaos with over the top yowls and a guitar sound that can only be achieved by accident. Lyrics in Portuguese (the members are all from south of the US border) and the Brasilian hardcore influence is evident. I wonder whether a proper recording would help or hurt... but the result here is perfectly fucked up in the right ways. (-Robert) (vaaregena@hotmail.com)

VAARINKASITYS - SOTA-APARAT LP After the 13 song EP from a year or two ago (songs from which are included here), it came as no surprise that this 30 song LP was fucking stellar. Like street punk on crack, these songs rock by nonstop intensity, and I'm sure that my banging fist would be accompanied by frenzied singing along if only I brushed up on my Finnish (the translations are a nice touch though, thanks guys). No frills here, honest punk rock. (-Robert) (Putrid Filth Conspiracy, Box 7092, 200 42 Malmo SWEDEN)

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ET AE ep

SANGRE DE LOS PUEROS "they lie we die" ep

SKELETON "what will you do" ep out early spring 2005

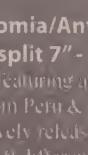
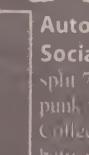
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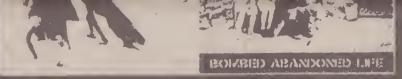
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TOTAL FUCKING DESTRUCTION-Compact Disc Version 1 CD Now this is some cool shit! Straight from the start we have some pretty brutal intense crust inspired grind! Featuring Ex-Brutal Truth drummer Rich Hoak, High screaming vocals, w/ your occasional grunts! 100% grinding political opus similar to Anal Cunt and Macabre! Includes 3 of their demos, and a hole live set from Philadelphia. PA! Good shit! (Bones Brigade, BP 31, 62140 Hesdin, France / www.bonesbrigaderecords.com) (Barrett)

TOTAL FUCKING DESTRUCTION-COMPACT DISK VERSION 1.0 Good Old Fashioned Grind Core from Philadelphia featuring Rich Hoak of Brutal Truth. Shredding guitar rips tear ass along side the mudniest bass riffs I've heard in a long time. Blast beats galore and screaming night hog vocals fill 40 tracks in just about as many minutes. Typically lo-down dirty production time warped me back to the days of "Scum" and it was a very nice visit to say the least. Disk is chock full of goodies including demos and live tracks as well. Oh, read the lyrics, as they are the most hilarious shit I have seen since "Straight Outta Compton" TFD, MOTHER BITCHES, TFD!! Indeed! (BONES BRIGADE RECORDS/ BP 31-62140/ Hesdin, France / www.bonesbrigaderecords.com) (-Johnny)

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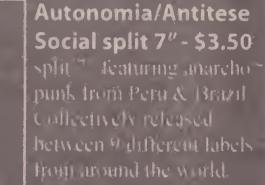
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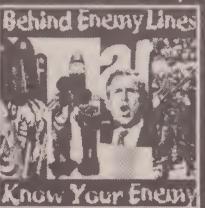
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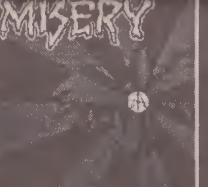
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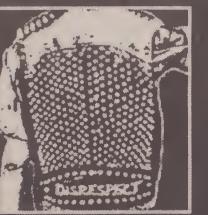
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NIA/MC Corusus Pages 77 (Discography, 10-75)



PHOBIA / RESIST AND EXIST split LP
So-Cal grind meets anarcho-crust. Now back in print!



V/A Aftermath CD
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DOOM Fuck Peaceville CD
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Profane Existence #48
Interviews with ANOTHER OPPRESSIVE SYSTEM, THE DAGDA, DISRESPECT, HELLSHOCK, MIGRA VIOLENTA, SEAN/PSYCHO FACTION, WORDS THAT BURN and featured artist Steve (V.O.W.). Also massive articles on the history of punk in Poland & Argentina, the genocide in Darfur, prison resistance, vegan recipes, and more. \$5 plus postage [weight = .6 lbs].



Profane Existence #47
Interviews with EXTINCTION OF MANKIND, BALLAST, ISKRA, BLOWN TO BITS, AVSKUM Spokes Pizza, and featured artist Kieran. Also features on alternative women's health products, BEYOND DESCRIPTION / JILTED tour diary, 15-year PE bibliography, combatting the anti-Queer movement, massive vegan recipe section + tons more. \$5 plus postage [weight = .6 lbs].



Profane Existence #46
One hundred more pages of pure anarchy, punk & chaos wrapped inside a beautiful, full-color cover! Interviews with WITCH HUNT, WOLF-BRIGADE, THE PROFITS and featured artist Mid. Features on C.L.I.T. Fest '04, persecution of Roma peoples, Nepal and Ireland regional reports, and taking on the anti-choice movement By ANY MEDIUM Necessary. \$5 plus postage [weight = .6 lbs].



Profane Existence #45
First issue of the new format contains interviews with PHOBIA, BEHIND ENEMY LINES, GARMONBOZIA, and the artwork of Maraid. Features include an anti-sexiom and rape primer for the punk movement, femicide in Ciudad Jauréz, & more. Also includes 29-track, 15-year anniversary, PE Records sampler & discography CD. \$7 plus postage [weight = .6 lbs].

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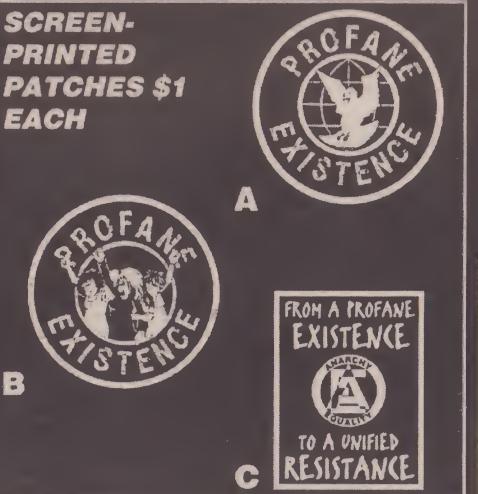
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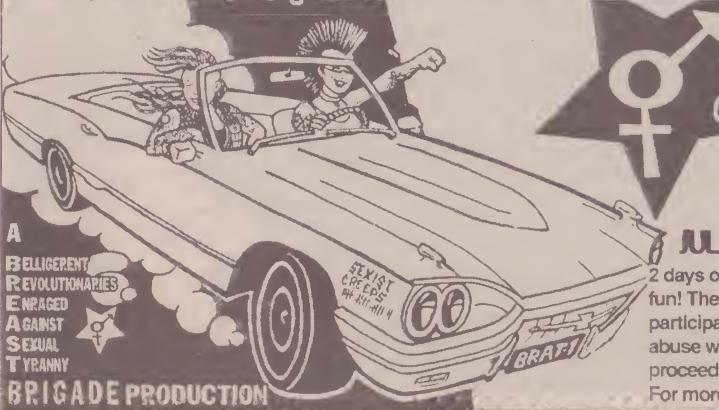


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AGAINST EMPIRE
ALL OR NOTHING HC
ANOTHER OPPRESSIVE SYSTEM
ASS

BEHIND ENEMY LINES

CONDENADA

DIE SCREAMING

DISRESPECT

GARMONBOZIA

HAPPY BASTARDS

I OBJECT

ISKRA
THE KNOTWELLS
KURSK
THE PROFITS
RESIST AND EXIST
WITCH HUNT



urtingly different: classic writing of a hundred years, and a touch of politics in my head, in that "I don't usually do, and even many times my fast paced eyes go and enjoy quite a bit of the left out. I can do with out overall this is a solid effort (Chris) RIVERWURST #5 vs. GW Bush 2004' and even about W, or his politics though some more than likely have nothing to do with me on the political debacle.

chblabla@hotmail.com) comic form, a new squat letters spend a funny night when the cops block of the goes on. There's a tips for winter comic artwork.

th of it in S&L. (-

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sh as well. Solid
is a consistently
n exceptional issue I think. (-

straplessmag@yahoo.com)
"shameless self-promotion)
t's help to highlight their art
y, drawings, reviews (A Per-
Tegan & Sara), mini-rants,
versations in the bathroom.
piece for me was Hassan's
man and questioning why he
enify so much so lately and
lls on. This "magazine" is
e worth a look if you live in
e into the above mentioned
like the overall tone, which
erior and impatient with other
)

THE CIRCLE PIT #1 (\$1.50/
449 Hungry Hollow Rd/
15656) This is a new zine
burgh area from the younger
s an interesting mix of politi-
with introductory articles, and
reepunk. It's a positive focused
le to support the local zinc
emester, and punker than thou-
But I found it kinda in juxtaposi-
say fuck Anti-Flag they're
Exploited are the real punks
omplain about how people won't
ll ages venues like Roboty, and
ing, but then go on to defend
drunk and having fun at those
Pittsburgh has one of the most
and all ages possibilities, and
so these kids see something
ing fresh air into a dying punk
-drinking venue any day soon.

But I'm getting side tracked here. This zine has a lot of good stuff in it: a primer of sorts on feminism, a brief history of the steel industry's rise and fall in Pittsburgh, some stuff on homeland security, youth revolution, and really basic chats with new young local bands Nobody's Hero and the Fight, and a chat with Justin from Crucial Unit which is a bit longer (they have called it quits now). Lots of punk photos of their friends included, as well as a couple of mine from a BEL show (!). It's all kinda basic. And in some cases the basicness does come across in a "this is how it is" way, which makes me want to counterpoint, but I think I'm just too closely tied, yet too far removed personally. Nonetheless, local support for scenes is important and I applaud the effort here to bring some politics to the street punk genre. (-Chris) **TEENAGE DEATH SONGS #16** (Tennessee Jones/ 1090 Green Ave/ Brooklyn NY 11221/ Tennessee@softskull.com) This has been one of my long standing favorite literary personal zines. Tennessee is a breathtaking writer, and after publishing his latest novel (Deliver me From Nowhere), I was glad to see that there was still a zine waiting to get out of the cagey life in Brooklyn. Tennessee is from the hollers of Appalachia, and writes in the sort of way, and tells the sort of stories, that fascinate me endlessly in the pile of books I read. What makes this better

though is that here is not only someone I have known, but also a voice I can relate to even more. A brief history of the steel industry's rise and fall in Pittsburgh, some stuff on homeland security, youth revolution, and really basic chats with new young local bands Nobody's Hero and the Fight, and a chat with Justin from Crucial Unit which is a bit longer (they have called it quits now). Lots of punk photos of their friends included, as well as a couple of mine from a BEL show (!). It's all kinda basic. And in some cases the basicness does come across in a "this is how it is" way, which makes me want to counterpoint, but I think I'm just too closely tied, yet too far removed personally. Nonetheless, local support for scenes is important and I applaud the effort here to bring some politics to the street punk genre. (-Chris) **THE CIRCLE PIT #1** (\$1.50/
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Pittsburgh has one of the most
and all ages possibilities, and
so these kids see something
ing fresh air into a dying punk
-drinking venue any day soon.

TERRA INFIRMA-VITA OBSCURA
the Viking c/o 709 Middlebury Rd
obscura.com) An agnostic look into personal experiences with shadowy rituals, folktales, and DIY ghost hunting! The pragmatic view of supernatural phantoms is the subject. For example, ghosts make a lot of fun to go ghost hunting! This is a killer copy-transparency cover.

THE PUTANG INA MO #4
www.GranPeligro.tk ("for blind day
siastic, if not that exciting, cutupas
3 pages with and cover, this shorty
punk, Canadian version) and Fecal
page is a show review. I'm not too into
DIY view. (jersey)

FLUKE #6 (3 stamps, trade, or
Tucson, AZ 85719usaflukone@
opened in my life. This tells a story of
this is not poetry." This mix of photo

it and I rather enjoyed reading
not-poems were telling us
choices. Some of the lines
overall, I recommend Fluke
THE COALITION ZINE #1
Bangkok Limau/ 21200 Kuala
laysia/drsia76@yahoo.com
Jalan Sultan Mahmud/ 20
Kalangcatmagik@hotmail.com
so e-mail first, if you can. The
world and this collective
various punks covering
stereotypes/fashion punk, etc.
more. 2002 Indonesian scene
burg, Russia. Interviews with
The Jhai Alai (Singapore
(Malaysia). Record and zine
still going. (jersey)

THE ALARM #1 (Free/ 130
77006 / alarm@riseup.net)
radical/progressive groups
Chicano's Student Alliance
mental and other groups
the People's Global Action
in, Houston, check it out

THE EAST VILLAGE INKY

22754/ Brooklyn NY 11203

been awhile since I've read
recent issues onto a mom friend who
tales of motherhood. But I decided it
myself, and it was a good choice cause
kinda like Ayun's breaking out from
issue as she spends most of this issue
about her travels. Her and a friend get
kids and go to Mexico for a luxurious
beach. And then Ayun and Greg head
for some theater business and fun, and
Ayun and Inky end up in LA for her
trading. Even when the kids are far away
in the stories (as that is kinda what
about after all) and I suppose that is
it's like being a parent as well. This is
issue. It's totally manic and full of wacko
and non-stop energy and stories are
adrenaline and craziness. It's kinda cool
see the shift from toddler to 7 year old
different relationship that has between
and daughter. Inky is a character as
and Ayun is eternally a fantastic writer
by the way, she has another book out
called "Job Hopper" which I have
read, but is about all the crappy day
she had whilst trying to "do her own thing".
Can we almost all relate? Recommended
always. (-Chris)

THE JUNIPER #3 (stamp/Dan Ryan/ PO Box
6352/ Boise ID 83707
messyelephant@hotmail.com) This is a cool
little newsletter about simple living. - as in
getting down with soil and trying to minimize
the impact on the earth, planting food in the
garden and thinking about getting 'back to
land'. Dan writes about his first garden and
things together, watched it start to grow
before reaping the harvest. And then he was
garden grew (afraid to seem like a little kid)

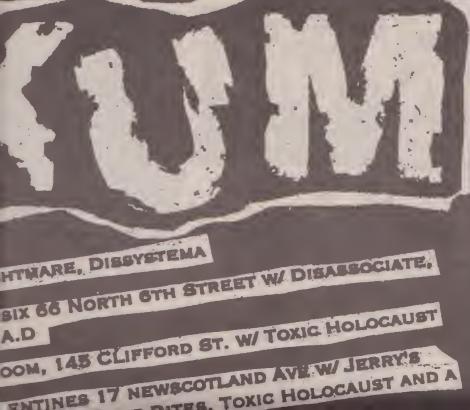
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